

Battle Through the Heavens

(斗破苍穹)

Chapter

900-999

Tian Can Tu Dou

(天蚕土豆)

Story Description:

In a land where no magic is present. A land where the strong makes the rules and weak has to obey. A land filled with alluring treasures and beauty yet also filled with unforeseen danger. Xiao Yan, who has shown talents none had seen in decades, suddenly three years ago lost everything, his powers, his reputation, and his promise to his mother. What sorcery has caused him to lose all of his powers? And why has his fiancée suddenly shown up?

Original Story can be found here: [Link](#)

Chapter 900: Magma's Living Creatures

The hot breeze arrived suddenly. At the crucial moment, Xiao Yan displayed his somewhat frightening retaliation strength. One could see a silver glow flashing under his feet as his body twisted into a strange arc and the breeze passed by just above Xiao Yan's shoulder. The hot wind caused a fiery pain to be transmitted from his shoulder.

Xiao Yan's body trembled after dodging the attack. He swiftly withdrew. While doing so, he turned his body around, and he looked in the direction where the wind originated. His face once again became stunned.

There was an enormous ten meter red colored figure swimming within the magma. Its color was similar to that of the surrounding magma. If one did not observe carefully, it would be difficult to discover it. Moreover, the crimson body was covered with red scales, and its five-foot-long red scaly tail swung slightly. The red figure stood with both legs, but its legs were unusually large. Its head was also rounded and covered with tiny scales. A pair of tiny eyes emitted a faint fierceness. Its large mouth was parted slightly, revealing densely packed sharp teeth. From the appearance of this thing, it seemed that it was a lizard that could walk on two legs.

From its outer appearance, this mysterious red-colored figure was clearly not a human. Instead, it was a kind of mysterious living being. Xiao Yan was completely unaware of just what kind of living creature it was since he had never seen anything that could live in magma in the past.

Xiao Yan sighed in relief after discovering that the other party was not a human. However, he did not release the cautiousness within his heart. He had not sensed even the slightest aura during this journey. Yet, this mysterious living creature had unleashed an attack at him without him even sensing it. Clearly, it was quite strong. Moreover, the latter had the homeground advantage. If Xiao Yan did not act carefully, he might really end up failing when he least expected to.

“Ji ji!”

While Xiao Yan's eyes were staring intently at the magma creature, it

was also fiercely staring at him. Both parties faced each other for a moment before the fierce glow within the eyes of the magma creature suddenly surged. An ear piercing cry was emitted from its mouth. After which, it swung its tail and a sharp beast claw parted the magma, shooting straight toward Xiao Yan.

“You are seeking death!”

Xiao Yan’s eyes turned slightly cold as he saw the magma creature charging over once again. He suddenly waved his sleeves and a jade-green Dou Qi pillar spat out of his palm. After which, it violently smashed into the magma creature, forcing it to withdraw over ten meters. Only then did it hiss and stabilize its body. However, after being taught an initial lesson. A crimson, wild violence immediately surged into the eyes of this magma creature. It widened its large mouth that was covered with sharp teeth and the surrounding magma immediately flowed in swiftly. Finally, it transformed into a foot-long magma ball that launched at Xiao Yan like a cannonball.

“Hmph!” Killing intent surged within Xiao Yan’s heart when he saw that this thing was going to continue pestering him. He widened his palm before suddenly clenching it. One could see the magma fireball swiftly shooting over. Then, its speed was reduced before it finally turned into a pile of magma that split apart when it was still a couple of meters from Xiao Yan. It returned to the magma sea around it.

The mysterious magma being became furious after seeing that Xiao Yan had once again resolved its attack. It repeatedly emitted a ‘ji ji’ sound from its large mouth before widening and closing it. Numerous head-sized magma-balls were swiftly spat out and repeatedly shot at Xiao Yan.

Xiao Yan’s body flashed in a ghost-like manner as he dodged the magma-balls one at a time. When he realized that the magma being was able to spit out an unceasing number of powerful magma-balls, he frowned. The silver glow on his feet flickered and his body carried a magma ripple that appeared behind the magma being in a lightning-like manner. He curled his fingers and his hand formed a blade-like form and violently inserted it into the chest of the magma being.

Although the scales of this magma being were extremely hard, Xiao Yan's hand blade, which became sharper than a knife under the stimulation of his Dou Qi, easily penetrated its chest after a mere instant.

The eyes of the magma being struggled intensely after suffering this fatal blow. A fierceness flashed appeared in its eyes. Immediately a sharp 'ji ji' sound was repeatedly emitted from his mouth. Finally, it spread swiftly within the magma like waves of water.

The 'ji ji' sound continued for a moment before it gradually weakened. The life within the magma being's eyes also swiftly scattered. Xiao Yan's coldly looked at this gradually stiffening magma being before he slowly withdrew his hand. His feet were about to withdraw from the body of the magma being when a thought suddenly passed through his heart. He fiddled with the interior of the body with his hand. When he finally withdrew it, there was a bright-red bead in it.

Xiao Yan's hand was void of even the slightest amount of fresh blood after being withdrawn from the body of the magma being. All it had was a kind of grease. The bright-red bead flickered and emitted a faint hotness.

Xiao Yan studied this bright-red bead somewhat curious. Surprise immediately flashed across his eyes. He discovered that there seemed to be a powerful fire affinity energy contained within the bead. This kind of energy was even purer than the energy that he could absorb from the magma world. Moreover, the quantity was also quite significant. Xiao Yan would have to at least train for two days in order to absorb a similar amount of energy compared to what lay within this small bead.

"This should be something that is similar to the Monster Core within a Magical Beast. However, this thing is a rarely seen tonic for a person who practices fire affinity energy. Unfortunately, its energy is far too wild and violent and cannot be consumed directly. Otherwise, it would be similar to some high tier medicinal pill..." Xiao Yan's eyes were filled with surprised. If others intended to absorb this thing, they would have to use other things to resolve the wild violence within. However, it was not too much trouble for Xiao Yan, who possessed a 'Heavenly Flame.' Hence, he could consume and absorb this thing. However, what caused him to feel somewhat

regretful was that there was only one of this bead. The effect of it would not be too great. All he would accomplish was a loss of a couple day's worth of training.

Xiao Yan sighed regretfully. He held the bright-red bead in his hand as his gaze once again shot into that transparent light circle. However, his expression suddenly changed. His gaze was immediately thrown to the west of the bright-red magma. An intense commotion had suddenly been transmitted from that direction.

Xiao Yan's gaze stared intently at the area where the magma ripple originated. Dou Qi within his body was ready to move. His face was solemn. This magma world was indeed filled with danger...

The bright-red magma swiftly rippled. A moment later, Xiao Yan's eyes shrank abruptly. He could see a large group of red-colored figures behind the magma. They were just like a group of fish that came swarming over. Numerous eyes that contained a fierceness as well as mouths filled with large teeth caused the skin on Xiao Yan's head to become numb. Indeed, there was not only one of the damn lizard person...

Xiao Yan beckoned with his hand and the Fallen Heart Flame suspended above his head was withdrawn into his body. A powerful jade-green flame surged out of Xiao Yan. He would have difficulty escaping from those fire lizard people. Hence, he could only go all out and battle them.

Within a couple of short blinks, the hundred red-colored figures flashed and rushed over before finally surrounding Xiao Yan. Their eyes were fierce and violent as they stared intently at the bright-red bead in Xiao Yan's hand.

Xiao Yan swiftly stored the bead in his Storage Ring in front of the focus of so many fire lizard eyes. It seemed that these fellows had been summoned by the lizard person from earlier just before it died. It was unexpected that there was such a large number of beings living under this magma that Xiao Yan had not noticed in the past.

The jade-green flame on the surface of Xiao Yan's body became denser while his eyes revealed a cautiousness as they slowly swept over the lizard

people. These lizard people seemed to be quite afraid of the Glazed Lotus Heart Flame. Hence, they merely surrounded Xiao Yan but did not immediately charge forward to tear him into pieces.

This stalemate did not last for very long before it was broken by the unwillingness of the fire lizard people. Their eyes were bright-red while a sharp ear piercing ‘ji ji’ sound was emitted from their mouths. Finally, they parted the magma and charged at Xiao Yan in a lightning-like manner.

Xiao Yan’s expression changed a little as many lizard people surrounded and attacked him. His hands tightened. Sharp palm winds that carried some heat were formed as he attacked, making intense ripples within the magma. These attacks smashed precisely into the many red-colored figures that came charging over.

There were many of these lizard people. Moreover, they knew how to control the strength of the magma. Even if an ordinary expert at the peak of the Dou Wang class were to be surrounded by them, they would be extremely miserable. However, they were not a large threat to Xiao Yan. Each time his palm wind shot out, a hidden force would shatter a lizard person. Hence, there were nearly twenty lizard people who had died to Xiao Yan’s hands after exchanging blows for only a couple of minutes.

“Ji ji.”

With an increasing number of fire lizard people being killed by Xiao Yan’s hands, the remaining lizard people finally understood just how strong the person in front of them was. However, they did not retreat because of this. Instead, more ear-piercing sonic waves began to be swiftly transmitted from their mouths.

Xiao Yan’s expression changed slightly in the face of the action of these fellows. From the scene earlier, he naturally understood that these fellows were summoning their companions. With his current strength, it was indeed not too difficult to deal with over a hundred snake people. However, if there were thousands or even more of them, it was likely that the unlucky one would end up being him.

Xiao Yan suddenly clenched his teeth as this thought flashed across his heart. He did not bother with the transparent light barrier anymore. His body moved and fled up. Just when his body had moved for over ten meters away, an intense ripple was transmitted from above the magma. Immediately, Xiao Yan saw red-colored figures appearing in his sight...

Moreover, the thing that caused Xiao Yan's heart to sink was that there was an exceptionally large lizard person at the front of the many red-colored figures. Even Xiao Yan felt some faint pressure when facing this lizard person. Clearly, the strength of this big fellow had far exceeded that of the ordinary lizard people...

"It is troublesome this time around..."

Xiao Yan could only stop his body, inhale a deep breath of air, and mutter as he watched the large group of fire lizard people heading over.

Chapter 901: Fire Lizard Race

The densely packed red-colored figures swiftly parted the magma and rushed over. After merely a dozen seconds, they spread out and surrounded Xiao Yan...

Being stared at by so many fierce gazes caused even Xiao Yan's face to become somewhat unnatural. His eyes stared at the largest fire lizard person. Not only was this fellow's size larger than an ordinary lizard person, but the scales on its body were also a darker shade of red. Its eyes, which contained a similar dark and cold fierceness, also revealed a ruthlessness and cunningness that the other lizard people did not possess.

"Ji ji!"

The large fire lizard eyes stared sinisterly at Xiao Yan. Its sharp teeth covered mouth emitted numerous 'ji ji' cries that Xiao Yan did not understand. His large hand was also dancing in front of him.

Xiao Yan did not understand the meaning that this large fellow wanted to convey. However, he knew that it was definitely not a friendly conversation. He immediately ceased paying any attention as his gaze swept around him, searching for a place where he could escape. The number of fire lizard that had appeared this time around was far too numerous. Even with Xiao Yan's strength, it was impossible for him to kill all of them in this magma. Hence, he chose to flee. He would return again and investigate that mysterious skeleton within the light barrier in the future.

This thought flashed through Xiao Yan's heart before a silver glow suddenly appeared under his feet. His body transformed into a jade-green fire figure that broke through the magma and rushed upward in a lightning-like manner.

"Ji ji!"

Xiao Yan's body had just begun to move when the leader of the fire lizard people detected it. It immediately emitted sharp 'ji ji' sound. The thousand lizard people behind him rushed over toward Xiao Yan from all

directions.

“Chi!”

Xiao Yan figure was extremely straight as he rushed into the dense mess of figures. His face was tensed as he circulated the Dou Qi in his body to the max. Jade-green flame in his hand was just like a fire whip under his control, unleashing sharp hot winds as he pleased. Each time this wind struck a lizard person. The strong and violent strength would shake their body until the creature spat out blood and withdrew. Some of those which were weaker were killed on the spot. Xiao Yan's eyes and hands reacted extremely quickly to the lizard people who died. With a grabbing action, his hand penetrated their bodies and swiftly pulled out a bright-red bead, which he then stuffed into his storage ring. All this while, he continued to charge wildly forward.

Although there were a large number of these fire lizard people, their strengths were equivalent to a human at the Dou Ling class. With this strength, they would naturally be unable to last for even an exchange with Xiao Yan. If they couldn't borrow the strength of the magma, their fight with Xiao Yan would be little different than a one-sided massacre. Even though they were deep within the magma, lightning-like attacks had left over a hundred lizard people dead within a short couple of minutes, and their bright-red beads were all pulled out...

While Xiao Yan killed extremely quickly, there seemed to be a never ending amount of these fire lizard people. They seemed to be unafraid of dying. No matter how ruthless Xiao Yan's method was, they still charged forward without care for their life. This caused Xiao Yan's fleeing speed to slow.

“Puff!”

The sharp hand knife pierced the chest of a fire lizard person who had attempted to launch a sneak attack from behind. Xiao Yan's eyes were cold and indifferent as his hand reached forward and grabbed something. A bright-red bead was taken out and placed into his storage ring. His gaze was dark and dense as he stared at the densely packed fire lizard people

around him.

After the intense battle earlier, Xiao Yan's body, which had already exhausted quite a lot of Dou Qi, felt somewhat weakened. Although he was still able to endure for a period of time, it seemed that he would not be able to last unless he successfully reached the magma where the pestering fire lizard people didn't go. Once his Dou Qi was exhausted, his situation would definitely be extremely unfavorable...

"Looks like I need to hurry and leave..."

This thought swiftly lingered within Xiao Yan's heart. He took out a medicinal pill from his storage ring, that recovered Dou Qi, and stuffed it into his mouth. Just when he was planning to swiftly leave, the dense red figures suddenly parted and formed a path. The strong-looking lizard person took slow steps on the magma as it entered. Its eyes revealed a mockery as it looked at the stubborn Xiao Yan. Its mouth emitted a sound filled with killing intent.

The many fire lizard people suddenly ceased charging Xiao Yan, following the appearance of the sound. They withdrew some distance and their large mouths were swiftly opened. Following this, the surrounding magma began to fluctuate intensely...

Xiao Yan's expression involuntarily changed upon seeing this scene. He naturally understood that these lizard people had the ability to control the magma, and these magma-balls possessed a great strength.

"It seems that the large fellow is able to command these lizard people. Looks like I will need to kill it first..." Xiao Yan's eyes narrowed while he muttered softly to himself within his heart. The strength of the fire lizard people's leader should be around that of someone at the initial Dou Huang level. However, within this magma world, it could be considered an expert at the peak of the Dou Huang class. Thus, it would be difficult to kill it. After all, one's speed and strength would be reduced in this magma. Nevertheless, this did not seem to pose any obstruction to Xiao Yan.

Just when Xiao Yan was calculating in his heart, the magma-balls in the mouths of the lizard people was swiftly agglomerated. After which, the

leader waved his hand. A countless number of fireballs flew through the magma, and shot furiously at Xiao Yan in all directions. Although Xiao Yan did not fear a simple magma-ball, in front of him, at this moment... were hundreds or thousands of them. Even he could only temporarily take shelter in the face of this kind of attack.

A silver glow flickered under Xiao Yan's feet as he used the 'Three Thousand Lightning Movement' to its extreme. Numerous after images surfaced while the magma rippled. Most of the magma-balls narrowly brushed past Xiao Yan, and did not cause him any harm.

Wave after wave of magma-balls carried greenish magma bubbles as they flashed past. However, most of them were dodged by Xiao Yan.

Xiao Yan's gaze swept in all directions as he dodged. A moment later his eyes suddenly shrank when he discovered that all the magma-balls that made contact with the transparent light barrier below were reflected back. It seemed that the transparent light barrier, which did not possess much strength, was not as simple as it had appeared.

Xiao Yan's eyes flickered slightly as he raised his head. He glanced at the large fire lizard and a cold glint suddenly flashed within his eyes. His body suddenly disappeared from the spot. The next time he appeared, Xiao Yan was already behind the lizard person leader!

With the help of its attunement of the magma flow, the leader did sense something when Xiao Yan appeared behind him. His mouth immediately emitted a low roar as his large hand tightened into a fist before violently smashing at Xiao Yan behind.

"Bang!"

The enormous fist was held by Xiao Yan with one hand. When the fist and the hand made contact, a powerful ripple was emitted and shook the surrounding fire lizard people until they swiftly withdrew.

"Hmph!"

Xiao Yan let out a cold snort after restraining the fire lizard with one hand. His body suddenly leaned forward and his right hand formed a fist,

that suddenly erupted forward.

“Octane Blast!”

A low and deep cry was emitted from Xiao Yan’s mouth. The strength on his fist suddenly soared. A moment later, it firmly smashed the chest of the fire lizard leader. During the powerful explosion, a hidden force was also quietly transmitted into its body.

“Bang!”

A low, deep explosion sound was suddenly emitted from the body of the fire lizard person. Its body trembled violently as an-inch-large hole was blasted into its body. Sticky grease flowed out from as the life within its eyes slowly disappeared. He had underestimated Xiao Yan’s technique...

Xiao Yan’s hand was swiftly extended into the fire lizard leader’s body after killing it with one move. He grabbed and pulled with his hand. A dragon-eye-sized deep-red bead appeared in his hand.

The energy contained within this deep-red bead was at least ten times more powerful than that of the ordinary beads. The powerful fire affinity energy caused Xiao Yan’s eyes to emit an unusual glint. These fire lizard people were a wonderful tonic from Xiao Yan’s point of view...

“Ji ji!”

After Xiao Yan killed the fire lizard leader, the eyes of the many surrounding lizard people around him suddenly became bright-red. Immediately, they opened their mouths and a sharp sonic wave was emitted.

Nearly a thousand lizard people screeched in unison. The ear-piercing sound wave caused even Xiao Yan to feel somewhat giddy. However, he swiftly recovered. He clearly understood that these fellows were likely summoning their companion again. He really did not understand this mysterious race. He was did not know how many strong fire lizard people were in this magma sea...

Not long after the sound wave was emitted, Xiao Yan’s Spiritual Strength, that had been spread out, picked something up. A couple of

extremely powerful remnant auras swiftly flew toward his location. Clearly, these should be the experts from the lizard race that were summoned by the sound wave...

A solemnness flashed across Xiao Yan's eyes as he sensed the speed of the lizard people. Even though he had used the Three Thousand Lightning Movement, it was likely that his speed could not match these lizard people in the magma. Hence, there might not be enough time for him to flee...

However, if he did not flee, did it mean that he would just simply wait for more and more experts from the lizard race to rush over? At that time, it would be no different than seeking his own death.

A glow flickered in Xiao Yan's eyes. An instant later, his gaze suddenly turned to the transparent light circle below. After hesitating for one or two seconds, he clenched his teeth violently, turned his body, and descended in a lightning-like manner. A thought passed through his mind when he was about to make contact with the light barrier. The Fallen Heart Flame wrapped around his entire body and it actually managed to barge in without any resistance.

The magma around Xiao Yan once again began to fluctuate as Xiao Yan entered the transparent light barrier. After which, it slowly rotated and strangely disappeared in front of the focus of the many lizard people...

A couple of blood-red figures shot over in a lightning-like manner not long after Xiao Yan entered the light cover. Finally, they appeared in this magma region. The surrounding fire lizard people hurriedly knelt and greeted these figures when they appeared.

The blood-red figures paused, and their gazes were fiercely looking in the direction where the light cover had disappeared. Waves of furious roars were emitted from their mouths. However, they did not have the slightest solution...

Chapter 902: Tian Huo Zun Zhe

Xiao Yan clearly felt an unusual ripple sweeping over his body when he broke through the layer of transparent light. This ripple swiftly disappeared when it made contact with the Fallen Heart Flame on his body, allowing Xiao Yan's body to successfully enter it.

When he penetrated the barrier, the bright-red color that filled his eyes was swiftly scattered. Replacing it was a kind of misty and faint cream-white-colored light. Xiao Yan immediately stabilized his body. His gaze was extremely cautious as it swept in all directions. Finally, it paused on the mysterious skeleton that was suspended in the middle.

The space in this place was clearly the light barrier that Xiao Yan had seen earlier. Perhaps it was due to his sight, but this place appeared much bigger at this moment. However, one could still take in the entire place with a glance.

Xiao Yan turned his head as his eyes searched outside the light barrier. The blood-colored fire lizard leaders were discovered by him. His expression immediately became somewhat solemn. He did not expect that this mysterious magma race would actually possess such experts. The strength of these blood-colored lizard people was clearly greater than the one he had killed earlier. According to Xiao Yan's guess, it was likely that they had already reached the peak of the Dou Huang class. This caused Xiao Yan's heart to become increasingly cautious. After all, who knew if there were any stronger people within this fire lizard race.

If there were, the situation would become quite unfortunate. Xiao Yan's strength might not be reduced greatly within the magma by relying on the strength of the 'Heavenly Flame.' However, the opponent had a great numerical advantage. Should Xiao Yan be surrounded, it was likely that he would have little chance to survive.

"Dammit. This magma world is indeed not as calm as it appears on the surface." Xiao Yan clenched his teeth and scolded softly.

The fire lizard people outside of the light barrier seemed to be unable to

sense its location. Hence, they wandered up and down for awhile before dispersing in all directions in front of Xiao Yan's eyes. Xiao Yan only sighed in relief when the last red figure disappeared into the magma. He might have killed quite a number of fire lizard people in the big battle earlier, but he was also greatly exhausted.

Xiao Yan's body was suspended in this white space as he rested for a moment. Only after some of the Dou Qi within his body had recovered did he stand up and carefully walk to the mysterious skeleton.

As he approached the mysterious skeleton, Xiao Yan could sense the summoning feeling within his heart become increasingly denser. Now, he had finally understood that the beckoning that he had felt above the magma had originated from this mysterious skeleton or... the Fallen Heart Flame.

Xiao Yan's eyes drifted over the mysterious skeleton a little longer before his gaze was involuntarily thrown to the invisible flame on the skeleton...

This Fallen Heart Flame was only the size of a head. The temperature that it emitted was far inferior to the Fallen Heart Flame within Xiao Yan's body. If one were to describe the Fallen Heart Flame within Xiao Yan's body as a matured form, this Fallen Heart Flame in front of Xiao Yan was in its baby stages.

Of course, regardless of whether it was in a baby or mature stage, this thing was a 'Heavenly Flame.' It was extremely difficult for a 'Heavenly Flame' to be formed. It required the accumulation of a countless amount of time. Moreover, this invisible flame that did not appear violent had likely existed for a very long time. However, Xiao Yan did not know why two 'Heavenly Flame,' that were the same, would appear in the same place. This kind of mysterious scene was something that Xiao Yan had never heard of.

Xiao Yan's eyes were locked intently on the Fallen Heart Flame. He inhaled a deep breath of air. This kind of baby 'Heavenly Flame' might possess some use to the 'Flame Mantra,' but it was likely that it would not be very great. After all, the evolution of the 'Flame Mantra' required quite

a frightening amount of energy. It was clear from looking at this small thing that it did not possess the necessary energy.

Xiao Yan's hand rubbed his chin. He mused for a moment before his hand suddenly paused. A joy surfaced within his eyes. This baby like Fallen Heart Flame might not be of much use for him, but it would definitely be a jou, that descended from the sky, to the Inner Academy. Once they had this thing, the Blazing Sky Qi Refining Tower would be able to open again. Moreover, its effects would not be weakened by much compared to the past. As long as there was an unceasing amount of Dou Qi being poured in, it would enable the activation of the Blazing Sky Qi Refining Tower that was called the 'Training Accelerator.'

Thus, not only would the Inner Academy benefit from it but this baby Fallen Heart Flame would be able to gradually evolve. In due time, it would definitely evolve into a mature 'Fallen Heart Flame.' Moreover, a 'Heavenly Flame' which was groomed from young would be much easier to tame in the future. The matter of the mature 'Fallen Heart Flame' rebelling like it did in the past would no longer occur. A century later, the Fallen Heart Flame that had successfully evolved might even be a great support to the Inner Academy!

After all, a 'Heavenly Flame' would evolve and form its own intelligence sooner or later. At that time, it would be little different from an ordinary person. It would definitely protect the Inner Academy like its home when that time came. Would the Inner Academy not possess an additional ultimate guardian at that point in time?

An excitement rose within Xiao Yan's heart when he thought of the many benefits that it would have for the Inner Academy. He always felt a headache and guilt when dealing with the problem of how to completely solve the exhaustion of the Blazing Sky Qi Refining Tower. The appearance of this baby Fallen Heart Flame had undoubtedly resolved this problem. The slight guilt within his body would finally disappear.

Xiao Yan involuntarily parted his lips and smiled when he thought about this. After which, he slowly walked forward. He curled his hand and captured the baby Fallen Heart Flame.

When he was just around two meters from the skeleton, a bright, white light suddenly erupted from the interior of the white skeleton. The sudden unexpected change caused Xiao Yan to be startled. He hurriedly withdrew. When he was just about to do so, he was shocked to realize that an enormous force had caused him to remain still.

Xiao Yan's stilled body caused his expression to swiftly change. A fleeing notion was lingering within his heart. The white glow in front of him wiggled slowly before it transformed into an illusionary old human figure.

The human figure had white-colored robes on. His hair was snow-white and he had an elderly face. A faint flicker flashed across both of his eyes. This illusionary human figure had just appeared when Xiao Yan sensed a kind of pressuring feeling that spread out from his heart...

"Fallen Heart Flame? How unexpected... it has been subdued by someone..." The illusionary human figure glanced at Xiao Yan before he immediately spoke. His voice was filled with a feeling that was difficult to describe.

Xiao Yan's heart involuntarily felt a chill when he heard these words. He naturally knew that the illusionary human figure in front of him was a spiritual body. However, he did not expect that the other party had managed to see the Fallen Heart Flame within his body at a glance.

"This little fellow was unaware that old sir is here and had rudely intruded. Please forgive me." Xiao Yan spoke extremely courteously while thoughts swiftly flew around his heart.

The illusionary human figure ignored Xiao Yan's courtesy as his gaze stared at Xiao Yan for a moment. Finally, he beckoned with his hand.

With the beckoning of the old human figure, Xiao Yan was shocked to discover that the Fallen Heart Flame within his body flew out uncontrollably before eventually landing in the other party's hand.

"Old mister, what do you mean by this?" This scene caused Xiao Yan's heart to sink as he furiously cried out.

The Fallen Heart Flame was just like an invisible long snake that

lingered and moved around the old human figure's palm. That obedient manner caused Xiao Yan's expression to change slightly. He had clearly already completely refined the Fallen Heart Flame. How was it possible for it to be this obedient in a stranger's hand?

"Why? Are you surprised?" The old person glanced at Xiao Yan, almost like he was aware of the doubt in Xiao Yan's heart. An unknown smile surfaced on the corner of Xiao Yan's mouth as he faintly explained, "This is because I was the pervious owner of the Fallen Heart Flame. Although you have refined it, it still does not pose much of a resistance to me. Moreover, do you really think that you can defeat the old me in flame controlling ability?"

"The previous owner?" Xiao Yan's eyes shrank slightly upon hearing these words. He dryly laughed, "Ke ke, old mister should not tease the little me. When I was subduing the Fallen Heart Flame back then, I did not sense that it had an owner."

"You are naturally unable to sense it because I had already given it freedom when I was about to die. It is not wrong to say that it is without owner at that time." The white-robed old man laughed.

Xiao Yan swallowed a mouthful of saliva. He did not expect that he would end up meeting the previous owner of the Fallen Heart Flame in this place. If what the old man had said was true, it was likely that he had been dead for quite a number of years. At the very least, First Elder Su Qian was completely unaware of this manner.

However, the thing that Xiao Yan was most worried about was whether this old fellow would take back the Fallen Heart Flame. The 'Heavenly Flame' was extremely important to Xiao Yan. If it were forcefully snatched from him, it would end up causing a great amount of harm to him. Hence, he would have to keep it regardless of what happen even if he had to risk his life. The white-robed old man in front of him might be an ultimate expert but the latter was ultimately just a spiritual body at this moment.. Moreover, looking at the thinness of the spirit, it seemed that he was not too strong.

“Relax, I will not snatch your Fallen Heart Flame. Strictly speaking, I have long since been a dead person. My spirit has suffered all sorts of hardship during these many years. The thing that you are seeing now is but the thread of a remnant spiritual imprint. It cannot cause any harm to you.” The old man faintly explained.

Xiao Yan felt somewhat embarrassed when he was about to sigh in relief upon hearing the words that targeted what he was thinking. He hurriedly smiled and said, “This senior has spoken too seriously. May I know old sir’s name?”

The white-robed old man smiled. His smile possessed a pride that came from within his bones as he said, “The old me is Yao Tian Huo. Other people also called me Tian Huo zun zhe.”

“Zun zhe?”

Xiao Yan’s heart leaped violently upon hearing this form of address. Xiao Yan clearly understood what this suffix behind the name represented. Clearly, this mysterious white-robed old man deep within the magma was an elite Dou Zun who had shaken the continent at one time!

Chapter 903: Five Ring Flame Expelling Technique

The white-haired old man who called himself Yao Tian Huo smiled slightly when he saw Xiao Yan's change in expression. He immediately waved his hand and indifferently said, "There is no need to be afraid. That was when I was still alive. The current me is merely a little spirit. Given your strength, it is enough to kill me."

Xiao Yan quietly sighed in relief without noticing it upon hearing this. He was quite cautious of this elite Dou Zun with a mysterious origin, especially if he was the previous owner of the Fallen Heart Flame.

Tian Huo zun-zhe played with the Fallen Heart Flame in his hand. A moment later, he sighed and recalled his memories. He flicked his finger and the Fallen Heart Flame transformed into a fire snake that shot to Xiao Yan.

Xiao Yan carefully received the Fallen Heart Flame, but did not immediately absorb it into his body. He allowed it to linger on his hand. Only after he failed to discover anything wrong with it did he carefully absorb it into his body. When he regained the Fallen Heart Flame, the caution within Xiao Yan finally paled a little. He immediately smiled and courteously said, "This little fellow is reckless. I was not aware that old sir is present in this place. Please bear with me if I have offended you."

Tian Huo zun-zhe waved his hand and glanced at Xiao Yan. He immediately pointed at the baby invisible flame and asked faintly, "Are you also interested in this Fallen Heart Flame?"

Xiao Yan's heart became cold upon hearing Tian Huo zun-zhe question. He immediately laughed dryly and said, "That is something that belonged to old sir when you were alive. The little me has luckily inherited a kind of Fallen Heart Flame. I am already satisfied.."

"Little fellow, don't use such tactics in front of me. When I was bluffing people on the Dou Qi continent, your grandfather might not even have

been born.” Tian Huo zun-zhe smiled as he chastised.

Xiao Yan involuntarily felt a little embarrassed when he heard this. This old fellow had already long seen through his thoughts.

Tian Huo zun-zhe’s gaze was somewhat nostalgic as he looked at the Fallen Heart Flame. He slowly said, “The first Fallen Heart Flame I discovered when I came to search this place back then. I spent a couple of years before luckily subduing it. It is the flame within your body right now...”

Xiao Yan lifted his ears when he suddenly heard Tian Huo zun-zhe speaking about the past. He also paid quite a lot of attention to the matter of the Fallen Heart Flame.

“Back then, I relied on the little skill that I had, and was able to roam anywhere in the world. Hence, I did not leave after subduing the Fallen Heart Flame. Instead, I curiously investigated this deep magma world...” Tian Huo zun-zhe long drawn out breath contained a sigh, feeling somewhat regretful because of his recklessness back then.

“After entering deep into the magma world, I had discovered a ‘Heavenly Flame’ seed within it. This discovery caused me to rejoice quite greatly. Hence, I greedily wanted to also subdue the Fallen Heart Flame ‘Heavenly Flame’ seed. In the end, the two flames mixed within my body. Not only were they unable to merge perfectly, but instead ostracized each other like enemies. The battle of the ‘Heavenly Flames’ caused my body to be seriously injured. At this moment, I was suddenly attacked...” Tian Huo zun-zhe sighed.

“Those fire lizard people?” A thought passed through Xiao Yan’s heart as he probingly inquired.

“It seems that you have also made contact with them...” Tian Huo zun-zhe was also somewhat surprised when he heard Xiao Yan’s words.

“They were the ones who had surrounded and attacked me earlier. I only barged in after having no other choice.” Xiao Yan rubbed his head and dryly laughed.

“Those fire lizard people seem to be the aboriginals living in this place. There are many of them. Moreover, there was no lack of ultimate experts who could contend against a Dou Zun. That time, I met a Dou Zun class lizard race expert. If I had been in my peak condition, I would have not been afraid of it. Unfortunately, the fighting of the two ‘Heavenly Flames’ had already caused my body to be seriously injured. You can also guess the ending after that. I suffered a fatal injury after that big battle. However, it was fortunate that these lizard race experts did not know about spatial strength. Hence, they had difficulty finding the place where I am hidden.” Tian Huo zun-zhe’s eyes had a somewhat astonishing appearance. It seemed that the big battle back then had been ingrained deep in his memory.

“Although I had successfully hid my body, I had also suffered a serious injury. My body gradually crumble not long later. With my last breath, I released the mature Fallen Heart Flame I had subdued. My soul was attached to the Heavenly Flame seed, intending to use it to survive. However, after so many years, my soul was unable to endure. If no other people entered this place within two years, my soul might have completely vanished.”

Xiao Yan’s heart moved slightly upon hearing this. From these words, this Tian Huo zun-zhe in front of him could not be said to be completely dead. Once one’s strength reaches the level of a Dou Zun, one still had the opportunity to revive unless even one’s spirit was scattered. One example was Yao Lao. As long as a body that could accommodate his soul was refined, he would be able to revive once again and return to his peak. However, Yao Lao’s soul was perfectly preserved. The soul of this Tian Huo zun-zhe in front of him, however, was quite thin. It was really difficult to say if he could recover...

“After so many years, it is unexpected that the ‘Heavenly Flame’ seed back then had gradually evolved into a Heart Flame form. However, it is still at its infant stage.” Tian Huo zun-zhe beckoned with his hand and the infant Fallen Heart Flame was held within it. He smiled as he glanced at Xiao Yan. He faintly asked, “Do you wish to obtain it?”

Xiao Yan nodded his head honestly this time around. He immediately respectfully said, “Old mister, tell this little fellow of your conditions if you are willing to give this infant Fallen Heart Flame. As long as this little fellow is able to do it, I will not decline.”

Although the other party had said that his current condition was one that Xiao Yan could easily kill, he didn't fully trust these words. After all, no matter how one put it, the other party was a genuine Dou Zun. Xiao Yan would not believe that he did not have some hidden tactics. Hence, it was better if Xiao Yan acted more courteous before he became confident.

The expression of Tian Huo zun-zhe did not change after hearing Xiao Yan's words. He mused for a moment before slowly speaking, “It is not impossible for you to have it. However, you must help the old me. Of course, you can rest assured that I will give you a sufficient reward.”

“Old mister, please speak.” Xiao Yan's heart moved as he spoke with a smile.

“I can see that the fire strength within your body is extremely strong. Moreover, the flame contained an extremely faint wooden aura. I think that you should be an alchemist, right? Moreover, it is likely that your alchemist tier is quite high in order to subdue the Fallen Heart Flame, no?” Tian Huo zun-zhe smiled as he spoke.

“He is indeed worthy of being an elite Dou Zun. All that he has left is a wisp of soul, but his eyesight is still so sharp.” Xiao Yan quietly praised while he nodded slightly.

“Since you are an alchemist, you should also know how to repair one's injured spirit, no?” Tian Huo zun-zhe softly laughed.

Xiao Yan's eyes narrowed while he muttered an ‘as expected’ quietly within his heart. These Dou Zun class old demons were some monsters that were difficult to kill. As long as a little of their soul remained, they were able to be this tenacious. This thought flashed across Xiao Yan's heart but his face descended into deep thought. Helping a Dou Zun class expert repair his soul was not an easy matter. Moreover, he had just met Tian Huo zun-zhe, and was completely unaware of the other party's

character. If he were to randomly help and allow the latter to recover, the other party might instead come and snatch the 'Heavenly Flame' in his body. What would he do then?

"Ha ha, little fellow, you can rest assured that as long as you are able to repair the soul of the old me, the old me swear that I will not harm you in the future." Tian Huo zun-zhe involuntarily smiled when he saw Xiao Yan deep in thought. He slowly spoke before beckoning with his hand. A snow-white storage ring from the skeleton beside him flew up and fell into his hand. With a flick of his finger, a pale-white-colored scroll appeared in front of him. Flying beasts, that were emitting flame from their bodies, were drawn on it.

"This is the Dou Technique that the old me was famous for back then, the 'Five Ring Flame Expelling Technique.' Ha ha, it is not quite right to describe it as a Dou Technique. It should be described as a flame controlling method." Tian Huo zun-zhe tossed the scroll to Xiao Yan and said. "As long as you help the old me, this thing will be yours. If you doubt the sincerity of the old me, you can take the scroll first. It is not too late for you to help me repair my soul after you discover that there is nothing wrong with it.

Xiao Yan carefully received the scroll. He hesitated for a moment before cautiously pulling it open slowly.

"Five Ring Flame Expelling Technique, aflame control skill. This technique is divided into five categories based on the shape of the beast: Wolf, Leopard, Lion, Tiger, Snake. Each kind of beast has its own fire spirit. Upon complete mastery of this fire technique, the five beasts can gather and form a Five Ring Flame Expelling Flame Formation. It has the enormous strength to boil the sea and burn the sky."

Xiao Yan's gaze swept over this somewhat simple introduction slowly. His gaze immediately paused on the last row of small words.

"If four of the five beasts are agglomerated from a 'Heavenly Flame,' the strength of this technique is comparable to a Tian class Dou Technique!"

"Tian class Dou Technique?"

Xiao Yan's eyes stared firmly at these four words. He inhaled a cold breath of air within his heart. He had never even heard the slightest information about a Tian class Dou Technique during these many years. The highest class Dou Technique that he had come into contact with was likely the 'God Seal Skill' that Xun Er had given him. Even though that was the case, one must reach complete mastery in order to step into the Tian class Dou Technique entrance. Could this so-called 'Five Ring Flame Expelling Technique' also possess this kind of frightening strength?

Xiao Yan gradually recovered his calm after his mind was shaken for awhile. He curled his lips slightly. A flame controlling technique. He had indeed not practiced one before. Normally, his control of the 'Heavenly Flame' to attack was quite simple. This 'Five Ring Flame Expelling Technique' was indeed suitable for him. Would the part where four of the five beast being agglomerated from 'Heavenly Flame' mean that one required four kinds of 'Heavenly Flames'?

Xiao Yan laughed bitterly when he thought until this moment. Currently, the interior of his body only had three kinds. He did not know just when it would be before he could reach that stage...

However, even if this point was eliminated, this so-called 'Five Ring Flame Expelling Technique' was really attractive to Xiao Yan.

Xiao Yan gently tapped the scroll on his hand. He was silent for quite awhile. Tian Huo zun-zhe did not press him. All the latter did was calmly watch Xiao Yan.

The silent atmosphere continued for a couple of minutes before Xiao Yan's let out a long breath. His bright eyes glanced to Tian Huo zun-zhe as he slowly said.

"I can help old mister repair his soul. However, I hope that old mister is agreeable to add another condition."

Chapter 904: Mysterious Existence

Tian Huo zun-zhe was startled when he heard Xiao Yan's words. He smiled slightly and said, "Why don't you tell me what the condition is."

Xiao Yan stared intently at Tian Huo zun-zhe. He softly said, "I hope that old mister will protect the little me for one year if you really recover your strength."

"Protect you for one year?" Tian Huo zun-zhe was stunned when he heard this. A smile that contained a deeper meaning immediately surfaced on his face. "Little fellow, you really don't suffer any losses. You are actually asking me to be a bodyguard for one year? You should know that an elite Dou Zun is not someone that an ordinary person can just request for help."

Xiao Yan smiled and said, "A year's time is merely just a short while to an expert of old mister's strength. Moreover, I am also aware that as long as mister is able to successfully repair his soul, it would not be too difficult for you to revive. I think that this is sufficient for me to hire old mister for one year, no?"

"Little fellow, you really do know how to speak. It is not too much of a problem for me to protect you for one year. Of course, the precondition is that you are able to repair my spirit. With my current spirit's strength, I won't be able to endure for a couple of years." Tian Huo zun-zhe mused for a moment before slowly nodding his head and replying with a solemn voice.

"Old mister, you can rest assured. It is not the first time I have helped someone repair their soul. I can be considered to have some experience. Although your spirit is seriously injured, it is not impossible to repair." Xiao Yan smiled as he responded. He had inherited quite a lot of medicinal formulas from Yao Lao. There was no lack of medicinal formulas for medicinal pills that healed one's soul. However, the medicinal ingredients that they required were things that were quite difficult to find. One would require quite a long time in order to find them.

“Hopefully, the old me is not mistaken...” Tian Huo zun-zhe looked at Xiao Yan with deep eyes. After which, he ceased hesitating. He tossed with his hand and the infant Fallen Heart Flame’s body that was in his hand drifted to Xiao Yan.

Xiao Yan carefully received this Fallen Heart Flame. When he made contact with it, he could sense the weakness of this small thing. He immediately forcefully endured the joy within his heart as he swiftly took out the ‘Flame Gathering Pot’ from his Storage Ring and gently placed the flame into it.

A faint warmth curled up after the Fallen Heart Flame entered the ‘Flame Gathering Pot.’ Xiao Yan could gradually feel an invisible ripple quietly spreading. Being extremely familiar with the Fallen Heart Flame, Xiao Yan naturally understood that this invisible ripple was the thing that the Blazing Sky Qi Refining Tower needed...

Xiao Yan sighed as though he had just been relieved of a huge burden after having resolved the trouble of the Inner Academy. He swung his hand and stored the ‘Flame Gathering Pot’ into his Storage Ring. After which, he waved the ‘Five Ring Flame Expelling Technique’ in his hand to Tian Huo zun-zhe. He smiled and said, “The little me shall be disrespectful and accept this thing.” Xiao Yan stored the scroll into his Storage Ring after speaking.

TL: It is disrespectful to simply take something especially when he has yet to earn it

Tian Huo zun-zhe involuntarily shook his head helplessly upon seeing the action of Xiao Yan. He held that snow-white Storage Ring before looking to the pile of bones. He sighed, “Please also take these bones of mine. There is also some special use for the bones of an elite Dou Zun.”

Xiao Yan would naturally not reject this little request of Tian Huo zun-zhe. He beckoned with his hand and a suction force surged out before he pulled the pile of bones into his Storage Ring,

Xiao Yan finally patted his hand after doing all this. His gaze turned to the area outside of the light barrier. The bright red magma did not appear

to have any lizard people. However, Xiao Yan, who had suffered some losses once, knew that these fellow's figures were extremely difficult to sense in the magma. He might end up having his trace discovered the moment he went out. At this moment, Xiao Yan was unable to deal with so many lizard people. Moreover, from what Tian Huo zun-zhe had said, there seemed to be experts from the lizard race whose strength could contend against a Dou Zun. If Xiao Yan were to meet the lizard people of that class now, it was likely that he would have difficulty fleeing.

“Those fire lizard people were extremely sensitive to the magma flow. Any slight movement within the magma will be discovered by them. Additionally, there is a large number of them. The more you kill, the more there will be. In the end, you will attract the truly strong ones within the tribe over. At that time... things would end up troublesome.” Tian Huo zun-zhe reminded by the side. Currently, he needed to rely on Xiao Yan to help him repair his soul. It was only natural that he would not simply just watch him be torn into pieces by those snake people.

Xiao Yan nodded slightly before speaking with a frown, “Above this magma is the Jia Nan Academy. It is likely that there will be unimaginable consequences if these fellows charge up one day...”

“There is no need to worry. These living creatures can only survive within the magma. If they leave the magma, they would end up just like fish left out of water and end up dying automatically.” Tian Huo zun-zhe spoke faintly.

Xiao Yan only sighed in relief when he heard this. He bitterly laughed, “I wonder how these fellows were created. Nature is indeed filled with mysteries. Moreover, this place is not even the bottom of the magma. I wonder just what could exist further below...”

Xiao Yan stopped abruptly when he had just spoken until this point. This was because he saw the face of Tian Huo zun-zhe by the side being covered by a horror that was difficult to hide.

Tian Huo zun-zhe had his mouth open as horror surged onto his face. At this moment, Xiao Yan suddenly sensed cold air rushing from under his

feet to the top of his head. Damnit... just what kind of frightening place is this? It had actually caused an expert, who had already become a Dou Zun, to reveal such an expression?

The strange and unusual atmosphere lingered over this place. It was a long while later before Tian Huo zun-zhe panting sound broke the silence.

“Little fellow, on the account of you helping me, I will advise you not to be curious and head down. Although I don’t know exactly what is below, I am able to vaguely sense that there is an extremely frightening existence there...” Tian Huo zun-zhe inhaled a deep breath of air, waved his hands, and slowly spoke.

Xiao Yan swallowed his saliva upon seeing this solemn expression of Tian Huo zun-zhe. He hurriedly nodded. Was there some Dou Sheng class existence in the magma world below that was able to cause an elite Dou Zun to be this afraid?

“I was able to vaguely sense it only at the instant my physical body crumbled. If it was some other time, I would definitely have difficulty sensing it. Moreover, at times, I thought that this mysterious fire lizard race could be a guardian to the bottom of the magma world.” Tian Huo zun-zhe slowly added.

Xiao Yan wiped off some cold sweat. This borderless magma world was becoming increasingly mysterious in his heart. Not only was it able to create two Fallen Heart Flames, but it was even able to create a strange race like the fire lizards. There was even a mysterious existence even an elite Dou Zun was afraid of below...

“Looks like I should leave this place as soon as possible...” Xiao Yan muttered in his mouth as he made the decision to leave this damn magma world as soon as possible. This place really caused him to feel too much pressure.

“You should recover your strength first if you wish to leave. With the Dou Qi currently within your body, it would be difficult for you to successfully reach the surface of the magma. This place is extremely safe. You need not worry about being discovered by them. You can wait until

you are safe before practicing the 'Five Ring Flame Expelling Technique.' Your body possesses the 'Heavenly Flame.' If you were to use this fire control technique, its strength would definitely soar.” Tian Huo zun-zhe opened his mouth and suggested from the side.

Xiao Yan nodded. After the big battle earlier, the Dou Qi within his body had been exhausted. In order to avoid being discovered by those fire lizard people, he had to be in his peak condition.

With this thought flashing through his heart, Xiao Yan swiftly sat cross-legged. His hand had just formed the training seal when his heart moved. Both of his fingers shook and a red-colored bead appeared. This bead had been obtained from the interior of those fire lizard people.

“Fire bead?” Tian Huo zun-zhe was startled when he saw the red bead in Xiao Yan’s hand. He immediately nodded and said, “It is unexpected that you were able to discover this treasure within the bodies of the lizard people. This thing might contain an extremely dense fire affinity energy but it is far too wild and violent. There is likely quite a great risk in consuming it.”

Xiao Yan smiled. Could the fire affinity energy be even more violent than a 'Heavenly Flame'? Being in possession of two kinds of 'Heavenly Flame,' Xiao Yan was able to use the most forceful method to refine and swallow them...

Xiao Yan flicked his finger and the red-colored bead landed in his mouth. It was like a cluster of flame that followed Xiao Yan’s throat and entered his body. Xiao Yan’s skin had also turned fiery-red at this moment...

Tian Huo zun-zhe knit his brows when he saw Xiao Yan ignore his advice and swallowed the fire bead. He immediately recalled something and laughed. Shaking his head, he said, “I forgot that you possess a 'Heavenly Flame.’”

Tian Huo zun-zhe’s eyes paused on Xiao Yan’s body. Only when the latter’s skin gradually recovered to normal did he finally nod. Both of his hands were placed behind him. He raised his head, looked at the bright

red magma, and sighed. He muttered, "It is unexpected... the old me has survived to see the sun again. It seems that the heavens really do not wish to kill me..."

The thing that Xiao Yan swallowed was a basic 'Fire bead' that could not be considered a high level. Hence, he merely spent around twenty minutes or so before completely refining the fire bead. After which, his face was filled with joy as he sensed the Dou Qi that swiftly filled his body.

"It is indeed quite a good tonic. By relying on these 'fire beads' within the Storage Ring, I should be able to successfully reach a six star Dou Huang. However, I should hurry up and leave this place now..." Xiao Yan sighed in relief as he sensed the interior of his body being gradually filled with Dou Qi.

"I will use all my strength to use spatial strength in order to hide the magma movement. You should make full use of the time. Given my current condition, I will not be able to maintain it for long..." Tian Huo zun-zhe smiled and spoke. He turned his head and watched Xiao Yan stand up.

Xiao Yan nodded his head when he heard this. His heart rejoiced at not doing anything reckless because his head had become giddy at the profits. This Tian Huo zun-zhe might be in an extremely poor condition, but it was obvious that he was not without any ability to retaliate as he had claimed.

Tian Huo zun-zhe moved his hand seal slightly upon seeing this. Xiao Yan placed the white-colored Storage Ring on his finger, and a blurry figure flashed and entered it. A faint ripple spread out from that Storage Ring, making the light barrier in front of Xiao Yan slowly part...

The light barrier had just been split when Xiao Yan stepped forward. His body transformed into a green-colored figure. After which, he shot forth in a lightning-like manner. At the same time, a faint spatial strength spread from the white-colored Storage Ring, completely solidifying the surrounding magma ripple...

The moment the light barrier parted, Xiao Yan and Tian Huo zun-zhe did not discover that a-couple-dozen-foot-wide light pillar was slightly

opening at the crimson-red magma world's bottom. It opened and closed, appearing just like a pair... of eyes.

Xiao Yan's figure quietly flew through the magma before his heart suddenly moved. His hand, that had been in his sleeve, shook and a fragmented jade appeared in it. At this moment, the ancient jade, that almost never reacted, was emitting a faint warmth...

Xiao Yan's hand gently rubbed the ancient jade. A storm rose within his heart. This was because this jade was surprisingly the heirloom of the Xiao clan... the Tuo She Ancient God Jade!

Chapter 905: The Activity of the Tuo She Ancient God Jade

A great soul-stirring wave rose within Xiao Yan's heart. However, there was not the slightest change on his face. The hand under his sleeve gently caressed the Tuo She Ancient God Jade, and he immediately inhaled a deep breath of air. The ancient jade, which had not exhibited any activity for a long time, had an unusual movement appearing at this moment. A wave of faint-redness rose up on the white-colored jade's body. Clearly, it was due to this magma area... or more accurately speaking, the magma world below...

Xiao Yan's heart felt eighty percent confident that there seemed to be some existence that was related to the Tuo She Ancient God Jade at the bottom of the magma world where one had difficulty seeing!

A boiling feeling quietly rose within Xiao Yan's heart when he recalled what Xun Er had said back then. This Tuo She Ancient God Jade was left behind by an elite Dou Di. Dou Di, the expert that stood at the peak of this world. The kind of strength that an expert who had obtained that level possessed was something that Xiao Yan had never personally witnessed. However, he could still vaguely guess it had been frightening enough to be able to shake the Heavens and Earth with one's hand.

Something that was left behind by such an elite Dou Di was sufficient to stir a bloody storm within this Dou Qi continent. Of course, the thing that was left behind must also possess the qualification to stir this chaos.

Simply put, if Xiao Yan was able to obtain whatever item that was left behind by a Dou Di, he might possess the capital that could enable him to truly contend with the 'Hall of Souls!'

This point was very attractive to Xiao Yan.

Xiao Yan's body was like a fish as he quietly cut through the magma. His eyes involuntarily glanced behind him. The crimson magma covered his sight but he could still vaguely see a dark-blackness that caused one to

fear the bottom of the magma world. That place might possess a bit of information related to the Tuo Shi Ancient God.

The fiery heat in Xiao Yan's eyes continued for a moment. When Xiao Yan gradually recovered from the shock, he slowly emitted a breath. The fiery heat slowly scattered. He did not turn his body around and head to the bottom of the magma even though he knew that place could attract the attention of the Tuo She Ancient God Jade.

This was because he also understood just how dangerous that place was. The current him did indeed require strength to rescue his father and Yao Lao. However, the precondition was that he must remain alive. Of course, Xiao Yan had done many things that put his life at stake in the past. However, he always had a bottomline. This time around, if he were to immediately turn around and enter that mysterious magma bottom, Xiao Yan was not confident that he could escape alive...

If he were to lose his life, a great strength would no longer be of any use! He was no longer that reckless young man from years earlier. He knew what things were worth doing and how to go about doing them.

Moreover, the Tuo She Ancient God Jade was a key that opened the thing that the Tuo She Ancient God had left behind. What could he do if the thing that existed at the bottom of the magma was really something left behind by the Tuo She Ancient God? Xiao Yan clearly understood that the key in his hand was merely a portion of the complete key. By holding a key fragment, it was likely that he could only watch the thing and sigh even if he managed to obtain what was left behind by the Tuo She Ancient God.

With his current strength, Xiao Yan was unable to even barge through the fire lizard people, much less the frightening existence that even Tian Huo zun-zhe was afraid of. He might end up with the miserable ending of returning empty-handed after paying a hefty price. This kind of price was not something that Xiao Yan could afford.

Many thoughts flew around Xiao Yan's heart, causing Xiao Yan to gradually calm down. He clenched his teeth and forcefully turned his head

around. After which, he returned the ancient jade in his Storage Ring without leaving a trace. At this moment, his body still had the soul of Tian Huo zun-zhe. This person was not Yao Lao. Something like the Tuo She Ancient God Jade, which was enough to arouse the envy of an elite Dou Zun, must never be leaked to anyone else. Hence, Xiao Yan firmly locked whatever happened in this place in his heart. Perhaps when he possessed a genuine strength in the future, he would be able to openly return to this magma world and investigate it!

However, that time was definitely not now!

He had to guard this secret alone. He knew that if this matter were to spread, the Jia Nan Academy would never experience a peaceful day again!

Xiao Yan slowly suppressed the excitement in his heart. His sleeves shook violently and Dou Qi spat from then. His swimming speed abruptly quickened. With the Tian Huo zun-zhe hiding the flow of the magma, he could increase his speed without fear since he would not be sensed by those fire lizard people.

With the help of Tian Huo zun-zhe this time around, Xiao Yan's journey was extremely smooth. Around ten plus minutes later, he left the area where the fire lizard people existed. The temperature and pressure within the magma at this moment had also weakened. Clearly, he was not far from the surface of the magma sea.

Xiao Yan slowly sighed in relief within his heart. He looked at the brightening magma above before immediately lowering his head. Looking at the magma world behind him, he muttered in his heart, "I will return again..."

"Splash!"

The quiet surface of the magma sea was void of wind and waves. There was only the slight sound of bursting bubbles. The entire magma world was still that quiet. Suddenly, a sound of something breaking through the surface of water sounded. Immediately, a human figure, whose entire body was wrapped within a green-colored flame, rushed out of the magma. Finally, the figure floated in mid-air. The figure's panting face revealed a

smile after having narrowly escaped death.

“I have finally left that damn place...” Xiao Yan wiped the cold sweat off his forehead and involuntarily smiled. Exploring underground this time around had been really risky. However, it was fortunate that he had obtained a benefit that was completely comparable to the risk. Not only did he completely resolve the worries regarding the Blazing Sky Qi Refining Tower, but he had also obtained a fire control skill that was comparable to a Tian class Dou Technique upon skill mastery. Of course, the most important thing was that Xiao Yan had once again gained the soul of a Dou Zun class expert. As long as Xiao Yan repaired his soul, a Dou Zun class ultimate fighter would appear beside Xiao Yan in the future. A Dou Zun class fighter. Just what kind of powerful strength this was. Although it would only last for a year, that time would be sufficient for Xiao Yan. He ultimately possessed an extremely powerful aid that would be a great help in the future...

Xiao Yan lowered his head and glanced at the snow-white Storage Ring on his finger. It was made of snow-white jade and it felt extremely exquisite. One would feel a smooth-feeling on contact. There was also a sleek-feeling to it. The ancients had said that a gentleman was like jade. What they meant was this kind of feeling that caused one to feel relaxed. The corner of Xiao Yan's mouth parted involuntarily. This scene had caused him to suddenly recall the scene of his first meeting with Yao Lao at Wu Tang City back then. His heart felt a faint warmth as he recalled it at this moment.

Xiao Yan's finger gently rubbed the flame seal on his forehead. His fist was involuntarily tightened. A low mutter to himself sounded within his heart, “Hall of Souls. Just you wait. I will come and find you! At that time, we will settle all of our scores!”

“I am finally able to see the world outside of the magma again. How I yearn for it...” An illusionary white robe figure Tian Huo zun-zhe drifted out of the Storage Ring. He looked at the surrounding mountain wall and sighed.

Xiao Yan smiled. His hand faced the mountain wall as a black figure

shot over explosively. Finally, the black figure turned into the Heavy Xuan Ruler and landed in his hand.

“Xiao Yan, my soul is currently extremely weak and cannot appear for too long. I shall leave the matter of repairing my spirit to you. You must definitely remember that my spirit can endure for only a short period of time. Hence, you must make full use of the time...” Tian Huo zun-zhe sighed emotionally. He spoke solemnly as his gaze turned to Xiao Yan.

Xiao Yan smiled and nodded. He said, “Old sir, please rest assured that Xiao Yan is not the kind of person who will do nothing after receiving gifts.”

Not long later, Xiao Yan would begin his journey to the Central Plains. If Xiao Yan wanted to survive in that place where the strong gathered, he would need strength, regardless if it originated from him or his surroundings. If he could quickly repair Tian Huo zun-zhe’s soul, Xiao Yan would have an additional helper beside him. This only benefited Xiao Yan without harming him. Therefore, he would naturally not cut edges with regards to this matter.

Tian Huo zun-zhe nodded with satisfaction. He slowly said, “You can feel free to ask me if you have any questions when you practice the ‘Five Ring Flame Expelling Technique.’ Since you have helped the old me, the old me will naturally not be stingy to you.”

“In that case, this little fellow will give you my thanks.” Xiao Yan involuntarily smiled when he heard this and thanked Tian Huo zun-zhe.

Tian Huo zun-zhe waved his hand. Perhaps it was because he had used the spatial strength earlier but his spirit had currently become much more illusionary. He could only let out a bitter smile upon seeing this. After which, he sighed, and his body moved, transforming into a light figure that entered his snow-white ring..

Xiao Yan spread his hands after seeing Tian Huo zun-zhe enter the ring once again. He raised his head and looked at the deep hole that reached the bottom of the Blazing Sky Qi Refining Tower. His body, however, did not move. He was hesitating. Currently, he was getting closer to the six

star Dou Huang class. According to his estimation, the strange effect of those 'fire bead' would at the very most allow him to enter the six star Dou Huang level in a month.

This magma world might be filled with danger. However, this was indeed a training treasure ground to Xiao Yan. The time in which he would leave for the Central Plains was becoming increasingly shorter. He had to make full use of his time to increase his abilities. This was because he knew that with his current strength, he was nothing in the Central Plains, where dragons and tigers lay. It would not be a simple matter if he wanted to obtain the top ten in the Pill Gathering where various alchemist from all over the continent gathered. All of this required him to put in a ton of effort...

Xiao Yan made up his mind within his heart. He did not hesitate as his body rushed to the mountain cave on the wall. This cave was in front of an enormous cliff. The tree branches covered and hid the mountain cliff. Even if one was to walk close to it, one would not be able to easily discover it. Xiao Yan had placed a simple trap on the entrance of the cave that would enable him to quickly sense anyone who entered it. During his exploration journey, he had obtained a hundred of those 'fire beads,' enough to use during this period of training. They would likely be sufficient support him to reach the six star Dou Huang level. Therefore, he needed to ensure that no one would interrupt him.

Xiao Yan's body entered the cave before he swiftly sat cross-legged. His face was solemn. This time around, he needed to use the fastest speed to breakthrough to become a six star Dou Huang!

Chapter 906: Advancing Again

Time quietly rolled by like the sand between one's fingers in this deadly quiet, ancient magma world. A short amount of time was unable to cause the endless magma to show even the slightest bit of activity. Time had become inconsequential in this place...

A month passed by in the blink of an eye.

Due to those so-called 'fire beads,' Xiao Yan's progress during this one month was extremely quick. After swallowing and refining around fifty plus of them, he could clearly sense that the Dou Qi vessel within his body, that had expanded during the last advancement, was once again transmitting a swelling feeling. This situation told Xiao Yan that his current self was already at the peak of a five star Dou Huang. As long as he had an opportunity, he would be able to easily advance and breakthrough to become a six star Dou Huang!

Upon reaching this stage, Xiao Yan also knew that continuing to focus and train was no longer the most optimum path. Although one cannot slack off during one's training, one should also know that one would not be able to make it by being too anxious. Simply put, stubbornly training would cause one to go downhill. Hence, Xiao Yan ceased his consistent day and night training after he realizing that he had reached the peak of the five star Dou Huang class. Instead, he started to train the 'Six Joint Body Flowing Ruler' he had just achieved initial mastery in.

Time slowly passed by while Xiao Yan was practicing the ruler technique. During the period that followed, Xiao Yan had placed the matter of training his Dou Qi aside. Most of his attention was placed on practicing this Dou Technique, causing him to become increasingly familiar with the 'Six Joint Body Flowing Ruler.' The first skill of the ruler technique 'Splitting Flame' was starting to displayed by him with greater smoothness and strength...

The effect of focusing on a certain thing was indeed far greater than splitting one's attention. After his great effort in training during this

period of time, Xiao Yan's understanding of the 'Six Joint Body Flowing Ruler' became increasingly deeper. Each time he used it, he would form a dense ruler web that even wind could not penetrate. He was already able to enter and leave the magma as he wished without even a drop of liquid magma touching him. This kind of metal container like defense was reminiscent of the spiritual imprint within the scroll.

During the occasional period where Xiao Yan was free when practicing the 'Six Joint Body Flowing Ruler,' Xiao Yan would study a little of the so-called 'Five Ring Flame Expelling Technique.' This practice was an incredible eye-opener for Xiao Yan.

A fire controlling technique was self explanatory. It was a method that was used to control a flame. Such a skill was something that Xiao Yan had never practiced. His usual control of the flame while attacking was on a superficial level. That controlling method was far from the sophistication of the 'Five Ring Flame Expelling Technique.' At the very least, just the flame controlling method alone was something that even Han Feng could not match from a certain point of view. The reason Xiao Yan had not been at a disadvantage when fighting with Han Feng using the 'Heavenly Flames' was mostly because of the former's powerful Spiritual Strength that far exceeded an ordinary alchemist...

Therefore, the current Xiao Yan had undoubtedly felt something like budging into a completely new territory when he came into contact with the 'Five Ring Flame Expelling Technique.' The various flame controlling methods that were recorded in the technique were not only beautiful but also only exhausted the smallest amount of Spiritual Strength to control the flame in the most exquisite manner. Moreover, it was able to unleash an extremely great force.

Tian Huo zun-zhe did not reveal himself while Xiao Yan was practicing the 'Five Ring Flame Expelling Technique.' It seemed that using the spatial strength when he was in the magma had exhausted him too greatly. Hence, he seldomly revealed himself. However, Xiao Yan was unconcerned about this. Although he had made contact with such a fire controlling skill for the first time, he was at the very least a tier 6 alchemist who had relied

on himself to create the overwhelmingly frightening 'Angry Buddha Lotus Flame.' Many flame controlling techniques were basically things that he understood upon reading. Xiao Yan's powerful Spiritual Strength had caused him to possess a talent that an ordinary person had difficulty matching in terms of medicinal refinement and flame control.

During the remaining time, Xiao Yan had, without any accident, submerged himself into the mysterious world of flame controlling with the 'Five Ring Flame Expelling Technique.' Within less than ten days, Xiao Yan's ability to control flames was basically multiplying...

Within this heart-shattering flame control world, Xiao Yan's opportunity to advance had unknowingly and quietly arrived...

When the feeling of being about to breakthrough appeared, Xiao Yan was practicing the first wolf-shaped fire spirit of the 'Five Ring Flame Expelling Technique.' After sensing the strange feeling that spread out from deep within his soul, Xiao Yan immediately scattered the hand seal and used his fastest speed to return to the cave.

Xiao Yan sat cross-legged in the clean and empty cave. He forcefully endured the waves of unusual ripples that were being transmitted from his body. With a flick of his finger, over ten red-colored 'fire beads' appeared in front of him. After which, Xiao Yan swiftly shut his eyes and formed a training seal with his hands.

The seal had just been formed when the surrounding space began to fluctuate. Waves of red-hot energy surged around Xiao Yan's body. After which, the energy appeared like many bright-red, long snakes, lingering over the surface of his body. Finally, they followed his breathing and entered his body.

This magma world was filled with an extremely powerful fire affinity energy. This would undoubtedly cause Xiao Yan's advancement to be much easier. He did not need to worry about the energy being exhausted or causing some unexpected change during his advancement. Moreover, his Storage Ring still contained quite a few 'fire beads. Even if an accident were to occur, the powerful energy contained in these 'fire beads' would

ensure the successful completion of his advancement...

An increasing amount of fire affinity energy entered Xiao Yan's body. So much had entered that his skin had gradually turned bright-red. Threads of white fog rose from his head and numerous veins began to wiggle like earthworms on his skin, appearing quite terrifying.

Under the unceasing energy of the outside world, Xiao Yan's body was swiftly being transformed. Each time he advanced, the interior of his body would undergo a small transformation. This kind of transformation was just like an expansion, transforming a small pond into a small lake. The Dou Qi that his body could accommodate would also increase a couple of times. At the same time, the many veins, bones, muscles, etc. within his body would display a varying degree of strengthening, causing the power within one's body to grow...

As Xiao Yan's advancement gradually entered a white hot stage, the ripples within the cave became even more intense. In the end, the entire cave was covered by a red fire affinity energy. Xiao Yan's figure was just like a black hole sitting in the middle of the energy, greedily swallowing all the energy that surged toward his body...

This unending swallowing continued for nearly two days. Only then did the dense red fire energy gradually pale. A young man with a naked upper body began to be revealed.

Xiao Yan's advancement continued for around three days. Only then did it slowly come to an end...

When the final string fire affinity energy entered Xiao Yan's body, the mountain cave descended into silence. The powerful aura that spread out of Xiao Yan's body was completely withdrawn into it at this moment. Not even a little of it leaked...

The young man's upper body was naked as he sat on the ground. His eyes were tightly shut, and he appeared like a meditating monk. He did not even move a little. If one could not still sense his vague aura, it was likely that one would really think that an accident had occurred during the advancement, resulting in a deviation of training from the correct path.

The quiet atmosphere within the cave continued for around half an hour or so when a soft breathe finally broke the silence.

Calm breathing entered and left Xiao Yan's nose in a cycle. His eyes slowly opened, but did not seem to reflect any changes besides being a little brighter. However, if someone familiar with Xiao Yan was present, that person would discover that Xiao Yan aura seemed to have become much hotter and more drawn out compared to before.

Xiao Yan waved his hand as he opened his eyes, storing the 'fire beads' in front of him, that he had prepared but had not ended up using, into his Storage Ring. After which, he sensed the powerful aura that had soared a couple of times within his body. A satisfied smile was lifted on the corner of his mouth.

The advancement this time around had not only allowed Xiao Yan to completely stabilize at the six star Dou Huang level, but had also caused the Dou Qi within his body to become a little hotter. Xiao Yan understood that this should be due to the energy of this place. However, it was fortunate that he had the protection of the 'Heavenly Flames.' Thus, the wild violence did not affect Xiao Yan.

"The feeling of advancement is really wonderful..."

Xiao Yan spread his hands as he stood at the entrance of the cave. He laughed softly. At this moment, the veins, muscles, bones, and even his cells within his body all seemed to be in peak condition. As long as his hand moved slightly, the strength that was waiting to erupt within his body would suddenly erupt like a volcano.

Within two short months, Xiao Yan had once again completed a breakthrough. If word of this speed were to spread, it would likely cause quite a number of elite Dou Huangs to die of embarrassment. At this level, it was common for an elite Dou Huang to spend a year or even a couple of years in order to raise their strength by one star. Yet, Xiao Yan had completed this within two months. This kind of talent and luck was really stunning.

Xiao Yan randomly clenched his hand as he sensed the fierce force that

would erupt at any moment. He used a great force and swung his fist toward the rock wall. The enormous strength penetrated the tough rock as the Dou Qi spat out formed a deep hole that was over ten meters deep. The surrounding wall revealed a slight crack while some rock dust spread. Clearly, Xiao Yan's control over his strength had already improved compared to before. It was gathered on one spot and not spread out, causing his blow to possess even greater strength and speed. Xiao Yan smiled. The corner of his mouth revealed an arc. He was just about to test his strength when his brows suddenly lifted. His eyes glanced to the hole that headed to the Blazing Sky Qi Refining Tower. There seemed to be the sound of rushing wind appearing there.

Under Xiao Yan's focus, the rushing wind sound in the hole came increasingly closer. A moment later, a figure appeared in front of Xiao Yan's eyes.

Chapter 907: Information

Xiao Yan involuntarily smiled when he saw the old figure that had descended from the hole. He spoke with a clear voice, "Why does First Elder have the time to come here today?"

The old figure remained slowly suspended in the when he heard Xiao Yan's voice. He glanced at Xiao Yan who had a naked upper body and snapped, "You have stayed below for such a long time. I thought that you had met with a troublesome matter... Zi Yan and those fellows have repeatedly asked me if they could come down here. How can I agree to their request given the danger of this place? Hence, I can only come down on my own."

Xiao Yan laughed when he heard this. He pulled the snow-white ring that hid Tian Huo zun-zhe up his sleeve without drawing any attention. It was better to keep the matter of Tian Huo zun-zhe a secret. It would be more of a disadvantage than advantage if other people were to know about it. Although Xiao Yan trusted First Elder Su Qian, this was after all something related to an expert who was once an elite Dou Zun. Hence, it was best if fewer people knew about it.

First Elder Su Qian naturally did not notice the little actions of Xiao Yan. His feet stepped on the empty air and paused at the cave. His eyes swept over Xiao Yan and he involuntarily let out an exclamation when he sensed the change in the latter's aura. He asked, "You have broken through?"

Xiao Yan smiled and nodded. He said, "I have coincidentally broken through just before First Elder descended..."

"Tsk tsk, you little fellow... this training speed is really a little too much like a monster. Back then, when I was still at the Dou Haung class, my fastest advancement took me around a year or so... but compared to you, it is really somewhat embarrassing." Su Qian helplessly shook his head. This fellow's training speed was really somewhat of a blow to others.

Xiao Yan rubbed his head and smiled. He did not tell First Elder Su Qian about the fire lizard people under the magma nor about the matter of the

flame beads. It was best if no one else enters this place after he left. After all, there was a secret that was kept forever in Xiao Yan's heart at the bottom of the magma. The moment that the secret was revealed, it was likely that the entire Dou Qi continent would tremble because of it...

Something left behind by a Dou Di was enough to cause everyone's eyes to go red with envy and act crazy!

Xiao Yan randomly took a robe and placed it over his body. After which, he flipped his hand and the 'Flame Gathering Pot' appeared in his hand. He smiled secretly to Su Qian and said, "First Elder, take a look and see what this is..."

"Ke ke, why? Have you stored the Heart Flame in it?" Su Qian smiled when he saw this. After which, he received the 'Flame Gathering Pot' and glanced over it. His face instantly stiffened when he sensed the rising Heart Flame in his body a moment later. With his current strength, how could an ordinary Heart Flame maneuver the Heart Flame within his body?

"This... this is..." The stiffness on Su Qian's face continued for a moment. After which, Su Qian appeared to have recalled something and shock filled with disbelief instantly surged into his eyes. He felt dull when he looked at Xiao Yan again. Awhile later, he suddenly frowned and asked in a deep voice, "Have you placed the 'Fallen Heart Flame' into it?"

Xiao Yan smiled and nodded when he heard this. He said, "This is indeed a genuine 'Fallen Heart Flame...'"

"You... ugh, why is it that you don't use your brain? I have already said that the Fallen Heart Flame's absence from the Inner Academy could save us some trouble. Now that you have already subdued it, taking it out again would harm you a ton! You might end up remaining at this level forever. How will you go and battle with the 'Hall of Souls' in this manner?" Su Qian clenched his teeth and spoke with resentment that stemmed from Xiao Yan being unable to meet his expectations.

Xiao Yan was stunned when he saw the First Elder Su Qian's manner. He immediately recovered after coming to a sudden understanding. It seemed

that Su Qian had thought that Xiao Yan had taken the Fallen Heart Flame out of his body. Xiao Yan involuntarily laughed. A warmth also appeared in his heart as he did so...

“First Elder, you are mistaken. This is indeed the Fallen Heart Flame. However, it is not the one from the past. Otherwise, how could its might be so weak?” Xiao Yan shook his head and softly laughed.

“It is not the Fallen Heart Flame from the past?” Su Qian was startled when he heard Xiao Yan’s words. Only then did he recover. The Fallen Heart Flame in this ‘Flame Gathering Pot’ seemed to be a little too weak. It was far inferior to the horror of the Fallen Heart Flame in the past...

Su Qian held the Flame Gathering Pot with both hands. He was stunned for a minute before he seemed to have thought of something. A wild joy that was difficult to hid surged into his eyes as he joyfully said, “You mean... you have found another Fallen Heart Flame?”

Xiao Yan smiled and nodded. He said, “This Fallen Heart Flame is also something that was found in the magma world. However, it is currently still in its infant stage. As long as the Elders from the Inner Academy who practice fire affinity Qi Methods pour an unceasing amount of Dou Qi into it, the Heart Flame that it could provide would still enable the Blazing Sky Qi Refining Tower to once again regain its use. After more time passes, this Fallen Heart Flame might also be able to once again evolve and possess its own intelligence. At that time, it would definitely not reject the Inner Academy after the Inner Academy has groomed it for so long. Therefore, the Blazing Sky Qi Refining Tower might be able to remain open forever...”

The joy on Su Qian’s face became very dense while listening to Xiao Yan’s gentle words. Clearly, he was extremely excited at being able to revive the Blazing Sky Qi Refining Tower once again.

“It is really unexpected that this magma world actually made another Fallen Heart Flame. Even the headmaster back then did not discover it...” Su Qian sighed first before shaking his head. After which, he held the Flame Gathering Pot as though it was a treasure and faced Xiao Yan with a

face full of smiles. He said, "It has been tough on you... little fellow. You have taken away a matured 'Heavenly Flame' with a wild character that is difficult to tame, but end up returning to the Inner Academy an obedient infant 'Heavenly Flame.' All of this can be said to cancel each other out. Hence, you need not feel guilty in the future..."

Xiao Yan smiled slightly and nodded. Now, he was truly relieved. He also had quite the feelings for the Inner Academy. The Blazing Sky Qi Refining Tower was extremely important to the Inner Academy. However, it had lost its effect because of him. He was quite happy that he was currently able to make up for it.

"Ugh, with this thing, I will at least be able to account to the headmaster when he asks about it in the future... the Fallen Heart Flame is something that he had spent quite a lot of effort in order to seal. The establishment of the Blazing Sky Qi Refining Tower is also the idea of him. If he were to return and see that this thing had lost its effect, it is likely that I will not be able to avoid being turned into a mess..." Su Qian's hand rubbed the Flame Gathering pot, and he sighed before laughing out loud.

Xiao Yan felt a little ashamed as he looked at Su Qian who appeared as though he had relieved a big burden. In that past, the First Elder had always said that everything was fine. Yet, his heart had actually been thinking about this matter to such an extent. However, it made sense if one thought about it. The Blazing Sky Qi Refining Tower was so important. If it simply disappeared, even Xiao Yan's heart would unavoidably feel a disappointment.

"Ke ke, let's not talk about this..." Su Qian hurriedly waved his hand after appearing to have seen through Xiao Yan's thoughts. He smiled and said, "One of the reasons that I have entered this place this time round is to see if any accident happened to you. Another reason is to inform you that we have news about Han Feng."

"Han Feng?" Xiao Yan was startled when he heard this. The smile on his face was withdrawn slightly. A coldness also flashed in his eyes. That fellow had taken advantage of the chaos back then to flee. Xiao Yan had been thinking about this matter. After all, this fellow had remained in the

'Hall of Souls' for a period of time. He might be aware of the place where teacher was locked. Moreover, even if Han Feng was unaware of it, Xiao Yan must personally kill this person who had betrayed his teacher. Otherwise, how could he be worthy of Yao Lao, who had placed high hopes on him?

"Ever since that fellow fled back then, he disappeared for a period of time. Originally, we would also have great difficulty finding him. However, a couple of days ago, Xiao Gate suddenly passed information saying that this fellow seems to have appeared at the Demon Flame Valley..." Su Qian slowly spoke.

"Demon Flame Valley?" Xiao Yan's eyes narrowed slightly. He immediately laughed coldly, "Looks like this fellow is planning to take advantage of the death of the Old Ground Demon Ghost to completely take over everything that belonged to him..."

"Aye, Han Feng possesses great ambition. He has encroached deep into the 'Black-Corner Region' and possesses a large network there. If he is given sufficient time, he would definitely become an overlord of the area. It is not difficult for him to achieve this with his status as an alchemist." Su Qian nodded and said.

"This time around, he has secretly took over the Demon Flame Valley and he did it in a quiet manner. If Xiao Gate hadn't been lucky, it is likely that they would have difficulty obtaining this information."

Xiao Yan nodded slightly. The corner of his mouth was lifted to form a cold expression. It was good as long as this fellow did not enter the vast mountain forest. As long as he was in the Black-Corner Region, Xiao Yan would have the confidence to capture this dog that had lost its home!

"What do you plan to do?" Su Qian glanced at Xiao Yan and asked.

"This fellow cannot be let off no matter what. Otherwise, there will be a lot of trouble in the future." Xiao Yan slowly tightened his fist and softly said, "Gather some people. This time around, I will definitely not allow this fellow to flee alive. I need to know some information from his mouth."

Su Qian smiled slightly and nodded. He said, "It seems that it is not impossible to capture him with the strength of our side... when will you act?"

Xiao Yan's hand grabbed toward the back of the cave. A black figure carried a clearly low whistle shot out. Finally, it transformed into a heavy ruler that fell into Xiao Yan's hand. He flipped with his hand and the heavy ruler was inserted behind him. The corner of his mouth was immediately lifted into a cold smile as he said in a dense manner, "Now!"

Xiao Yan's shoulder shook slightly when his words sounded. A pair of beautiful jade-like bone wings slowly extended out. After which, the bone wings were flapped. A faint thunder roar resounded over this quiet magma world as Xiao Yan's figure turned into a blur that shot to the entrance hole!

Su Qian involuntarily fondled his beard as he looked at the back of Xiao Yan which was filled with a killing aura. He muttered, "What a pitiful Han Feng. Originally, he could have been considered a great authority within the 'Black-Corner Region.' In the end, he unluckily met Xiao Yan. It looks like the eyes of Yao zun-zhe have become sharper and sharper..."

Su Qian also smiled gloatingly after saying this. After which, his footsteps stepped on the empty air as his body followed close behind Xiao Yan in a lightning-like manner.

This time around, the fight between these two, who had the same teacher, will likely reach a conclusion!

Chapter 908: Discussion

Four Inner Academy's Elders were seated at the bottom of the Blazing Sky Qi Refining Tower. Their eyes were slightly shut. Between the four of them was, coincidentally, the deep hole that led into the magma world.

“Chi!”

The soft sound of rushing wind suddenly appeared from the deep hole. The eyes of the four Elders suddenly opened at the same time. Immediately, their gazes focused on the deep hole, and the Dou Qi within their bodies involuntarily began to flow.

During the time that the four Elders waited solemnly, a black figure suddenly flashed out before gently landing on the ground. The eyes of the four people drifted over. Only then did they softly sigh in relief. After which, they smiled and cupped their hands to that person.

The one who had exited the deep hole was naturally Xiao Yan. He courteously smiled to four Elders. Su Qian also rushed out of the deep hole soon after Xiao Yan had exited from it. The four Elders sighed in relief when they saw this. They also knew the level of danger in the magma world below. Hence, they were afraid that Su Qian might have met with an accident within.

“First Elder, take out the ‘Flame Gathering Pot’ and try to see if it has any effect. There is no need to rush for this bit of time because of the matter of Han Feng.” Xiao Yan looked at Su Qian who had landed steadily. He did not hurry to gather helpers. Instead, he gave a faint smile and gave a suggestion.

Su Qian smiled and nodded when he heard this. He tossed his hand. The Flame Gathering Pot shot out of his Storage Ring and slowly landed in front of the four Elders. He smiled and said, “All of you practice fire affinity Qi Methods. Pour your Dou Qi into it and see just how much Heart Flame can be stimulated.”

The four Elders exchanged glances after looking at the Flame Gathering Pot in front of them. They did not hesitate much. The fingers of the four of

them touched the body of the pot. After which, they shut their eyes slightly and powerful Dou Qi within their bodies flowed into the Flame Gathering Pot like floodwater.

Four fire affinity Dou Qis of different shades poured into the Flame Gathering Pot like trickling streams. After which, the Dou Qi swirled slightly before charging into the Fallen Heart Flame.

“Bang!”

Following the entry of the Dou Qi, the infant Fallen Heart Flame’s surface suddenly erupted and formed a wave of intense light. It appeared like a huge piece of rock thrown at the calm surface of a lake. Circular invisible ripples swiftly spread out from the Flame Gathering Pot...

These invisible waves curled and rose. Finally, they penetrated the tower one level at a time and encompassing the entire Blazing Sky Qi Refining Tower within it.

At this moment, the many students who were quietly training within the Blazing Sky Qi Refining Tower suddenly opened their eyes. Their hands involuntarily rubbed their chests. A wave of hot Heart Flame had suddenly appeared there. Some of the older students within the Inner Academy were not foreign to this Heart Flame because they had enjoyed the benefits of this kind of refinement before...

However, that benefit was lost ever since the Heart Flame of the Inner Academy was exhausted. Originally, they had thought they might not be able to enjoy that kind of treatment until they had graduated. Much to their joy, however, it had quietly returned...

“The Blazing Sky Qi Refining Tower is able to produce a Heart Flame again!”

After the entire Blazing Sky Qi Refining Tower experienced some initial surprise, the information of the Blazing Sky Qi Refining Tower being revived was like a breeze that spread from the tower. It spread across the entire Inner Academy at a frightening speed. Within a short while, all of the students became jovial. The Inner Academy with the Blazing Sky Qi Refining Tower was the true Inner Academy.

Even though Xiao Yan and the others were at the bottom of the tower, they were still able to hear the many cheers that were transmitted through the tower. Immediately, Xiao Yan exchanged glances with Su Qian and the two of them sighed in relief, appearing as though they had just released a heavy burden.

“Looks like it is indeed effective...” Su Qian exclaimed. His gaze immediately slide to the four Elders and teased, “Looks like we will have to trouble these Elders from our Inner Academy who practice fire affinity Dou Qi in the future. However, the speed at which this little thing absorbs Dou Qi is not very fast. Most of the Elders are able to endure it.”

The four Elders involuntarily and bitterly smiled. They shook their heads when they heard Su Qian’s words. It was likely that they will forced to be a long term meal ticket for the Fallen Heart Flame within this ‘Flame Gathering Pot’...

Su Qian laughed heartily when he saw the bitter faces of these four Elders. He waved his hand at Xiao Yan before walking to the exit. He spoke while walking, “I will go and inform the other Elders who practice fire affinity Dou Qi. In the future, all of you might have to take turns and come here. Ke ke, just treat it as training. Only with depletion will there be growth. This also benefits all of you...”

By the time Su Qian finished his words, he had already exited through the door. Xiao Yan behind him waved his hand pitifully at the four Elders and hurriedly followed. After all, he was also a practitioner of fire affinity Qi Method...

Xiao Yan and Su Qian walked out of the bottom of the tower. Along the way, they sensed the atmosphere of the Blazing Sky Qi Refining Tower had become fiery hot again and traffic soared. They let out smiles. The revival of the Blazing Sky Qi Refining Tower was really a joy that had descended from the sky to these students. After all, with the Heart Flame to refine the Dou Qi within their bodies, their training speed would be able to increase...

After exiting the Blazing Sky Qi Refining Tower, Su Qian led Xiao Yan

and hurried to the Elders Meeting Room in the deeper region of the Inner Academy. He had already dispatched an Elder to invite the Little Fairy Doctor and the others over for the issue of gathering helpers.

By the time Xiao Yan and Su Qian arrived at the Meeting Room, the Little Fairy Doctor, Zi Yan, Xiao Li, and some of the experts from Xiao Gate were already seated within. The large group looked at Xiao Yan who had entered and some surprise was revealed in their eyes.

“Little fellow, you have finally come out...” Xiao Li took the lead to stand up and say something too Xiao Yan with a smile.

Xiao Yan grinned and nodded to Xiao Li. After which, he found a seat beside the Little Fairy Doctor and Zi Yan. His gaze swept over these large and small beauties before teasingly saying, “After not seeing you for a couple of months, it seems that the both of you have become even prettier.”

“Chi, don’t think some nice words can eliminate the great sin of you tossing us aside to look for fun by yourself!” Zi Yan curled her small mouth and sneered without giving Xiao Yan face.

“Sin your head...” Xiao Yan was unable to laugh or cry as he shook his head. His hand rubbed the top of this little fellow’s head. After which, his eyes found the Little Fairy Doctor who was smiling quietly. His voice was gentler as he said, “Have you been alright during these few months?” The matter that he was speaking about was naturally the Little Fairy Doctor’s ‘Woeful Poison Body.’

“It’s alright. I am temporarily still able to suppress it.” The Little Fairy Doctor pulled and parted a strand of snow-like hair from above her forehead as she softly spoke. Her grayish-purple moving eyes rotated to Xiao Yan. Surprise flashed across her eyes, “You have advanced again?”

Xiao Yan smiled and nodded. The Little Fairy Doctor’s strength was even greater than First Elder Su Qian’s. She was naturally able to see through the change in his aura.

“Cough, if you want to engage in a private conversation, you can do so when you are free. Now, we should first discuss the important matters...”

Xiao Li involuntarily and dryly coughed. He then started speaking when he saw Xiao Yan and the Little Fairy Doctor muttering to each other.

The entire hall immediately emitted laughter when Xiao Li's words sounded. Xiao Yan was still alright, but a faint alluring blush surfaced on the pale face of the Little Fairy Doctor before she could stop it...

"Is there any activity on Han Feng's side now?" Xiao Yan also withdrew his attention. His face was somewhat solemn as he asked.

"That fellow is extremely cunning. Originally, I had thought that he would have fled the 'Black-Corner Region.' It is unexpected that he would hide in the Demon Flame Valley..." Xiao Li knit his brows and said, "The Demon Flame Valley is an old faction within the 'Black-Corner Region.' Although their strength has been greatly reduced with the death of the Old Ground Demon Ghost, Fang Yan, and the other two Elders, they still cannot be underestimated. Han Feng has taken advantage of the Demon Flame Valley while they lacked a leader. He used his connections within the 'Black-Corner Region' and can be considered to have control of the Demon Flame Valley."

"Moreover, according to my latest information, Han Feng is quietly contacting some of the 'Black-Corner Region' factions whom he had a good relationship with the intention of forming an alliance. Even that Black Emperor Sect, old man Ying Shan are all included in the invitation..."

Xiao Yan was stunned when he heard this. He immediately and coldly laughed, "This fellow is really a grasshopper who refuses to rest no matter what... he always wishes to create trouble."

"This Han Feng is wildly ambitious. He had put in great pains to establish his old connections within the 'Black-Corner Region.' Although he was defeated by you a couple of times, he has currently reached the Dou Zong strength. His summoning ability within the 'Black-Corner Region' has not been reduced by even a little. If we were to really allow him to form an alliance with these factions within the 'Black-Corner Region,- it is likely that they will be a great threat to the Jia Nan Academy and Xiao Gate." Su Qian spoke in a deep voice, "On our side, we have only

two genuine elite Dou Zong, namely the Little Fairy Doctor and I. The Elder Qian and Elder Bai within the Inner Academy will never act on this kind of matter. Their mission is to protect the Jia Nan Academy from being destroyed. Therefore... we will have to rely on ourselves for everything else.”

“Hence... we must not allow the alliance with the other factions in the ‘Black-Corner Region’ to succeed! Otherwise, they would have the opportunity to turn things around.” Xiao Li sinisterly continued.

Xiao Yan quietly nodded. His finger gently tapped the table. A moment later, he slowly asked, “When will he invite these factions?”

“Tomorrow!”

Xiao Yan lowered his chin slightly. His body gently leaned on the backrest as he faintly said, “Second brother, maneuver all the experts from Xiao Gate. Additionally, dispatch someone to make contact with the factions that have a good relationship with Xiao Gate. Ask them to dispatch some experts. Tomorrow, all of us will head to the Demon Flame Valley. This time, I want to make sure that Han Feng will be unable to comeback!”

Xiao Li nodded his head when he heard this. The corner of his mouth was parted into a savage smile as he said, “The Demon Flame Valley has a deep enmity with our Xiao Gate. This time around, we can eliminate them together and allow the other factions within the ‘Black-Corner Region’ to know that not anyone can offend our Xiao Gate!”

“The Demon Flame Valley and the Jia Nan Academy’s relationship is absolutely irreconcilable. This time around, the academy will dispatch all of its experts. We must completely eliminate them at their roots!”

A ruthlessness also flashed through Su Qian’s eyes. Quite a number of the Jia Nan Academy students had been killed by the Demon Flame Valley during their outside training over the years. The relationship between both parties had long reached an unmendable stage.

Xiao Yan nodded. He slowly stood up and threw his gaze in the direction of the Demon Flame Valley. A dense smile surfaced on his young face.

“Everything should come to an end...”

Chapter 909: Gather

The next day, on a small mountain peak not far from the 'Peace Town' of the Jia Nan Academy, one would occasionally see flashing human figures within the dense forest. There were a couple of withered trees within the forest along with some flowers and grasses. The air was also very fresh.

Over ten human figures stood facing the wind on the mountain peak. The wild wind that blew over was unable to cause the clothes of these human figures to flutter even a little. The ten plus people quietly stood as the roaring wind smashed against their faces. However, not a single person moved because of this. All of them stood quietly. The faint pressuring aura that was emitted caused the mountain peak to be completely silent.

A black-robed, young man stood at the leader's spot. His eyes were shut while his hands were placed behind him. A long while later, his ears suddenly moved and he faintly said, "They're here. They're finally here..."

Over ten black spots suddenly appeared in the horizon not long after Xiao Yan's voice sounded. In merely a couple of blinks, these black spots turned into human figures that rushed over. They only gradually reduced their speed when they were a short distance from the mountain peak. After which, they slowly descended from the sky.

"Ha ha ha, chief Xiao. It has been a couple of years since we last met, are you still well?" The ten plus human figures rushed down. The leader, who had laughed out loud was a strong man with a naked upper body that emitted a fierceness.

"Chief Tie's might is not inferior when compared to back then. One can hardly find anyone in the 'Black-Corner Region' who has such an imposing presence..." Xiao Yan looked at this chief of the Wild Lion Gang, Wu Tie, who had once cooperated with him to deal with the Misty Cloud Sect, before cupping his hands. He spoke with a smile.

"Whose imposing manner can compare with chief Xiao? Currently, who in the 'Black-Corner Region' does not know that chief that has not only

relied on himself to kill the three great Elders of the Demon Flame Valley, but also caused the Old Ground Demon Ghost to be unable to return. Tsk tsk, that is an expert who was a seven star Dou Zong. He is basically an unmatched existence within this 'Black-Corner Region.' In the end, even such an expert had died in chief Xiao's hands. Looks like this 'Black-Corner Region' will likely belong to Xiao Gate in the future..." A red-dressed pretty lady by the side, who was emitting enchantment throughout her body, covered her mouth and laughed in a lovely bewitching manner. That laughter contained some passion.

This pretty woman was naturally not foreign to Xiao Yan. She was the chief of Luo Sha Gate whom he had also cooperated with before. She was an extremely beautiful woman who hid a viciousness under this lovely body of hers.

"Tsk tsk, the current Xiao Gate has only been established for a few short years. Yet, it has already reached this stage. It is really the fastest rising faction that the old me has seen. Chief Xiao's credit for this naturally cannot be denied." An old man who had a somewhat shadowy face also smiled and agreed.

"Chief Su and Old Ying really knows how to joke. These are all mere false rumors..." Xiao Yan slightly smiled. His gaze swept over this group of people as his face became slightly stern. A voice that was not very loud clearly sounded within everyone's ears, "I think that everyone should also be aware of the intention of inviting everyone here. Since everyone is willing to come, all of you have already taken your stance. Among those present includes friends who have cooperated with Xiao Yan back then. Naturally, all of you should know my character. As long as this matter is successful, the reward will definitely be to everyone's satisfaction."

The group of experts who had been invited over immediately smiled and replied courteously after Xiao Yan's words sounded. With Xiao Yan's current reputation within the 'Black-Corner Region,' all of them did not dare to slight him. This was because they also clearly understood that Xiao Yan was also a tier 6 alchemist. The value of being able to let him owe them a favor was quite great. Currently, the Demon Flame Valley was

already declining. In the future, it would likely be difficult for it to contend with Xiao Gate. Lending a hand at this moment would undoubtedly win some favor from Xiao Gate. Hence, most of the experts present did not take much time to think after receiving the invitation from Xiao Gate before they quickly hurried over.

“Everyone should also clearly understand the beginning to the end of the story. I shall not say anything unnecessary. The grudge between Xiao Gate and the Demon Flame Valley is extremely deep. Han Feng and I are also enemies. Hence, the matter today will not end peacefully. Everyone should prepare themselves...” Xiao Yan spoke in a deep voice.

“Ke ke, chief Xiao, you can rest assured. The usual arrogance and highhandedness has long been an eyesore to us. Today, we will borrow the wind of Xiao Gate to teach these bastards a lesson.”

“That’s right. Han Feng is a hypocrite. Back then, he harmed many people in an indiscernible manner. The old me had been backstabbed a couple of times.”

Xiao Yan turned his head slightly and exchanged looks with Xiao Li after hearing the voices seeking a crusade against the Demon Flame Valley and Han Feng. A smile flashed across his eyes. These fellows were really quick to jump on the bandwagon. However, they were at the very least some help. With their aid, the Demon Flame Valley would likely truly be eliminated from the ‘Black-Corner Region’.

“Alright, it is already quite late. Let’s start moving.” Xiao Yan looked at the sky before interrupting the voices seeking a crusade. After which, he turned his head and waved his hand to the forest. One could immediately hear some clattering sound as dozens of human figures rushed out of the forest. Finally, they flapped their wings and remained in the air.

“Let’s go...”

Xiao Yan softly exhaled. A pair of crystal clear bone wings extended from his back. He flapped them slightly and his body swiftly rose into the air.

Seeing this action of Xiao Yan, Xiao Li, and the others hurriedly got up.

Only the Little Fairy Doctor and Su Qian were casual and cool among the group. Their feet stepped on the empty air and walked. The ability of an elite Dou Zong to walk in the air really caused others to be envious.

When Su Mei and the other experts saw the Little Fairy Doctor and Su Qian walk in the air in this manner, their hearts shook violently. They exchanged gazes with one another and quietly muttered 'as expected.' Currently, there were a total of two Dou Zong class experts on Xiao Yan's side. Adding this to his own frightening strength, that seriously did not tally with his level, it was likely that the three of them would be able to block three elite Dou Zongs. This lineup... it seemed that the Demon Flame Valley was completely finished...

Su Mei and the others did not dare to slack off as this thought flashed in their hearts. They hurriedly summoned their Dou Qi wings and rushed to the sky.

Seeing that everyone was prepared, Xiao Yan's expression also became slightly stiff. He waved his hand and his body took the lead, transforming into a blurry figure that rushed toward the direction of the Demon Flame Valley. A large group of figures followed close behind. A wave of faint killing intent spread out.

The Demon Flame Valley was located in an enormous valley within a mountain range in the northern part of the 'Black-Corner Region.' The size of this valley was not smaller than a city. It was filled with a large population. Most of the people were external members of the Demon Flame Valley. Those who could become the members of the Inner Valley were mostly elites that were specifically selected from the former group. Normally speaking, the inner group consisted of only ten percent of the external members. Even though this was the case, it still caused the Demon Flame Valley to be filled with people. Although it had existed for a long time, it had continued to flourish within the 'Black-Corner Region.'

Of course, the greatest reason for this was naturally because of the existence of the Old Ground Demon Ghost. Possessing a seven star elite Dou Zong, the Demon Flame Valley had the capital to contend against the 'Black-Corner Region.' The precondition of this, however, was that Xiao

Yan did not appear...

Compared to the arrogance and bossiness of the past, the current Demon Flame Valley had undoubtedly kept a much lower profile. Having lost their strongest few experts, the strength of the Demon Flame Valley within the 'Black-Corner Region' had difficulty supporting their unafraid roaming nature. However, a camel that was about to die was still larger than a horse. Regardless of how the Demon Flame Valley had declined, it still possessed quite the capital. Even though the Old Ground Demon Ghost and the three great Elders had died, they were still able to survive within the 'Black-Corner Region,' especially with the appearance of Han Feng. He allowed the Demon Flame Valley to recover some strength.

An elite Dou Zong possessed an important position and influence no matter where one was. This was especially the case when this Dou Zong was quite a high tiered alchemist...

Ever since Han Feng had taken over the Demon Flame Valley, he had relied on his network in the past to rope in quite a number of experts who were free individuals within the 'Black-Corner Region.' Moreover, he was still inviting many renowned factions from the 'Black-Corner Region' on a large scale with the intention of establishing an alliance to contend against the increasingly powerful Xiao Gate and the Jia Nan Academy.

It must be said that Han Feng in the past had a reputation that an ordinary person had difficulty matching in the 'Black-Corner Region.' By taking out the former 'Pill Emperor' name, he had basically attracted many people with different intentions. Even a powerful faction like the Black Emperor Sect was successfully invited by him. It must be said that the tenaciousness of this fellow in the 'Black-Corner Region' was indeed something that an ordinary person would have difficulty matching.

The enormous mountain valley appeared as though it had been dug from a mountain. The surroundings of the valley were filled with deep-black rocks with a gold-like luster faintly flickering on them. They were the 'Black Metal Rock,' which were extremely tough. Even an elite Dou Wang would have difficulty shattering them. Looking at the dense-black rocks, it appeared that this mountain range was a mineral vein. The

headquarters of the Demon Flame Valley was located in this place.

The Demon Flame Valley today was the most lively one in many years. Densely packed Demon Flame Valley guards were holding shiny weapons as they stood at the entrance to the valley. Anyone without an invitation card or loitering individuals were not allowed to enter. Hence, this had resulted in a long queue being formed at the entrance of the valley.

While the entrance to the valley had descended into a noisy area, the open ground deep within the valley was filled with a large number of experts and factions with great names from the 'Black-Corner Region.' Han Feng occupied the leader's seat in the middle of the open ground. His face was filled with smiles as he observed the open ground, which had every seat filled. At this moment, he seemed to have returned to the brilliance and pride when he was 'Pill Emperor' back then.

"Xiao Yan... the grudge between you and I will be settled very soon. At that time, I will definitely get you to hand over the 'Flame Mantra' to me obediently!" A young figure flashed across his mind. Han Feng's grip on his teacup suddenly tightened. A ruthless and savage smile flashed across his eyes.

While Han Feng was laughing ferociously in his heart, the large group of unwanted guest led by Xiao Yan quietly arrived.

A large battle was about to erupt!

Chapter 910: Alliance

There was not a single empty seat on the entire open ground. Dozens of various-sized people were present, some were old men with white hair over their heads and some were well-endowed women. Of course, most of them were young men in their thirties. The only thing that was the same was that they were emitting an expert aura from their bodies. Even though they were sitting quietly, they were not people whom others could underestimate. Most of those who were able to sit in this place were experts and factions that possessed a great reputation within the 'Black-Corner Region.' In this place where strength was respected, even the seating arrangement was determined by strength.

On the left and right side of Han Feng sat Mo Tian Xing from the Black Emperor Sect and Old Ying Shan who had fought with Xiao Yan for the 'Bodhisattva Body Transformation Saliva.' At this moment, the two of them had shut their eyes. They ignored the surrounding people. Their calm and indifferent manner caused ordinary people to be afraid of striking up a conversation with them.

With the strength of these two people, no one dared to have any objection to them sitting in the leader's seat. Other than the Old Ground Demon Ghost, who had already been destroyed, it was likely that these two old fellows were the strongest within the 'Black-Corner Region.' Of course, the size of the 'Black-Corner Region' was quite large. No one knew if there was some old demon, who had never shown himself, hidden within the deep mountains or ancient forests. After all, some genuine expert in this world always liked to do such a thing.

Below Mo Tian Xing and Old Ying Shan were some of the leaders of renowned factions within the 'Black-Corner Region.' Some of these people had a good relationship with Han Feng while others were remaining neutral. However, due to the influence of Han Feng and his strength, they had no choice but to come and join this so-called Grand Gathering...

Other than some of the experts from the Demon Flame Valley beside Han Feng on the leader's seat, there were also some familiar faces. The so-

called gold-silver elders were the ones most recognizable. These two fellows had a grudge with Xiao Yan because of Han Feng. It was natural that they were extremely willing to join the Demon Flame Valley the moment that they got Han Feng's invitation. They knew Han Feng extremely well. Although this fellow was ruthless and vicious, he was indeed skilled in medicinal refinement. One would not lose out by following him. Moreover, the current Han Feng was already an elite Dou Zong with a strength that far exceeded them. Hence, these two old fellows were not opposed to submitting to him. Instead, they were somewhat joyful that they had found support.

"Ke ke ke ke, Please forgive me if there is any delay in inviting everyone to come this time around." Han Feng smiled and chatted with some familiar faces before raising his head to glance at the sky. After which, his gaze swept over the open ground, opened his mouth, and faintly laughed.

The somewhat noisy open ground immediately became quiet when they heard Han Feng open his mouth to speak. Numerous gazes turned to the main character today, Han Feng.

Han Feng appeared to enjoy being the focus of attention. His face carried a smile. A moment later, he finally said, "Ke ke, the main reason I have invited everyone here today is to discuss some matters with everyone. I think that everyone should understand that the 'Black-Corner Region' has always been at odds with the Jia Nan Academy. The number of 'Black-Corner Region' people who have been killed by the Jia Nan Academy's Law Enforcement Unit each year is not a small amount. Hence, both parties do indeed have some enmity that cannot be reconciled."

"I think everyone seated here should have heard about the matter some time ago. The Demon Flame Valley's Ground Demon ancestor has been killed by the Jia Nan Academy." Han Feng's face was somewhat dark when he spoke until this point. Some of the experts from the Demon Flame Valley also had faces that were filled with a dark and dense fury. Currently, the Demon Flame Valley and the Jia Nan Academy had a blood feud. Both parties wished to destroy the other.

Everyone in the open ground exchanged looks with each other. Their

faces changed a little. They had indeed heard this news. However, they still felt shock when they heard it personally from Han Feng. The Old Ground Demon Ghost was an ultimate expert who was at the seven star Dou Zong class. He could be said to be an existence that lacked an opponent within the entire 'Black-Corner Region.' It was unexpected... that he ended up being killed by the hands of the Jia Nan Academy.

The hands of Mo Tian Xing and Old Ying Shan who had been expressionless and acted indifferently, also involuntarily trembled under their sleeves when they heard these words. Fear flashed across their eyes. Their information was naturally even keener than an ordinary faction. Hence, they also understood what exactly happened back then...

"It is unexpected that Old Qian and Old Bai, these two old demons, are hiding in the Inner Academy. This Old Ground Demon Ghost can be said to have collided into the tip of a spear. However, it is rumored that this old fellow was first seriously injured by a frightening Dou Skill that Xiao Yan had used. Otherwise, with his strength, it should definitely not be a problem for him to flee even if he could not defeat Old Qian and Old Bai... looks like this little fellow hides very deeply..." Mo Tian Xing's hand caressed the warm teacup and muttered to himself.

"If not for the Bodhisattva Body Transformation Saliva, the old me really doesn't wish to place my intention on that little fellow... that fellow is clearly the type who acts like a harmless pig to eat a tiger." Old Ying Shan also knit his brows slightly as he used a soft voice, only audible to him, to sigh.

"The strength of the Jia Nan Academy has far exceeded our understanding. Moreover, they have always disliked the 'Black-Corner Region.' Currently, the Demon Flame Valley has been badly hurt by them. I will say something awful. If they were to strike another faction presently seated, it is likely that none of us would be able to stop them. Moreover, there is still that so-called 'Xiao Gate.' Its founder Xiao Yan is someone from the Inner Academy. This faction is clearly in cahoots with the Jia Nan Academy. Under the support of the Jia Nan Academy, the strength of Xiao Gate ridiculously expanded. If the Demon Flame Valley had not

stepped forward to stop them in the past, it is likely that the limbs of Xiao Gate would have already intruded in front of everyone..." Han Feng's dark and solemn voice slowly resonated over the open ground.

"However, the Demon Flame Valley is currently in a battered shape and would have difficulty contending with Xiao Gate in the future. Having lost the restraints of the Demon Flame Valley, Xiao Gate will swiftly expand. At that time, the ones who will be harmed will be everyone seated here." Han Feng smiled faintly and continued, "Of course, if any one of you thinks that your sect possess an expert that exceeds the strength of ancestor Ground Demon or can contend with the Old Qian and Old Bai demons from the Inner Academy, you can naturally choose to ignore all I have to say. Otherwise... you can only choose to submit to Xiao Gate or be destroyed in the future!"

Some uproar was successfully stirred from Han Feng's alarmist words. Xiao Gate was a faction that had rose during the last few years. Most of the old factions did not wish to accept such a new faction within their hearts. Asking them to submit to such a faction was quite a difficult task.

"May I know what kind of plan mister Han Feng has to deal with this?" A human figure suddenly stood up and asked when everyone was in an uproar.

Everyone's eyes focused on Han Feng after hearing the words of this person. Since Han Feng had opened his mouth, it was likely that there should be some matter he was getting at. Anyone who could make a name for himself in this 'Black-Corner Region' was not a fool. They naturally understood that Han Feng would not spend a great effort to summon them all to this place just to scare them.

Mo Tian Xing and Old Ying Shan glanced at the human figure, and ridicule flashed across their eyes. It was really not easy for Han Feng to enact this show...

Han Feng smiled when he saw the gazes being gathering on him again. He first obscurely threw a satisfied gaze to that human figure. After which, he arranged his clothes, and smiled as he said, "With the strength of the

Jia Nan Academy and Xiao Gate, it is likely that not a single faction in the 'Black-Corner Region' is able to contend with them alone. Therefore, in order to protect one's safety, one would have to abandon any prejudice and form an alliance to fight the enemy together!"

"An alliance?" Most of the people present understood Han Feng's intention after hearing this phrase. Everyone knew that the Demon Flame Valley had a blood feud with the Jia Nan Academy as well as Xiao Gate. Currently, the Demon Flame Valley was seriously battered. If the other party were to launch a campaign and attack, it was likely that the Demon Flame Valley would be eliminated from the 'Black-Corner Region.' However, if the Demon Flame Valley was to join with the many factions in the 'Black-Corner Region,' it would mean that over half of the 'Black-Corner Region' would be joined together. It was likely that even the Jia Nan Academy and Xiao Gate would not dare be reckless.

"Sect leader Mo and Old Ying Shan are in agreement with the matter regarding the formation of an alliance. This also provides the greatest protection to everyone. After all, who will not be afraid in the future with Xiao Gate looking on menacingly by the side?" Han Feng spoke in a faint voice as he looked over the open ground which had become much quieter.

Numerous gazes turned to Mo Tian Xing and Old Ying Shan when they heard this. These two people possessed a great reputation within the 'Black-Corner Region.' Moreover, the two of them were genuine elite Dou Zongs. If these two agreed to this alliance, the strength of this alliance would likely be somewhat frightening. Thus, they really need not be afraid of the Jia Nan Academy and Xiao Gate...

Of course, things might be put in such a manner, but those seated were not ordinary people. It would be difficult to reach this stage without having some tactics. The 'Black-Corner Region' was chaotic and divided. Even those seated might drink and have fun now only to turn around and lead their men to destroy the entire faction of the other person. No one submitted to each other. Could an alliance be formed in this manner? Should it be called an Internal Conflict Alliance? Or perhaps a Fratricide Alliance?

Moreover, since it was an alliance, there must be an alliance chief. The person for this commander's position was really difficult to choose. After all, who did not want to take it?

"Ke ke, the matter of the alliance is only a suggestion of mine. Whether it succeeds or not depends on everyone here." Han Feng played with the teacup in his hand and softly laughed, "However, if Xiao Gate were to really come seeking power, it would be best that everyone quickly surrender and submit if they do not wish to die..."

The faces of quite a number of people changed after Han Feng's words sounded. Their brows were knit. Xiao Gate's expansion was incredibly fast. This was indeed a thorn in many people's heart. However, they lacked the will if they were to asked to fight against Xiao Yan now. After all, no one could ignore the powerful strength of Xiao Yan displayed in front of them.

"Clap clap!"

While everyone was considering the trade off, a clear applause suddenly sounded within the open ground. Immediately, a clear laugh was transmitted to everyone. "Chief Han really understand the times. According to what you have said, should the current you not led everyone to kneel and surrender now?"

The sudden laughter caused everyone to feel shocked. They immediately turned their heads and their eyes swung toward the entrance of the open ground. A large group of people with fierce auras all over their bodies were slowly entering. Leading the group was a black-robed, young man, who was wearing a smile as he slowly walked in...

"Xiao Yan?"

As they looked at the black-robed, young man, almost everyone seated instantly recognized this extremely renowned young. All of them let out an involuntary cry. The cry carried some panic as it resounded over the area.

At this moment, Xiao Yan's face, which was covered with smiles, had instantly turned into a vicious and sinister one...

Chapter 911: The Deterrence Created By Speed

Han Feng's gaze was dense as he watched Xiao Yan's group slowly walk into the open ground. This was especially the case when he did not discover the existence of Old Qian and Old Bai. The cold glow in his eyes suddenly soared.

"Xiao Yan, it is unexpected that you actually possess the guts to deliver yourself here. Do you really treat everyone seated here like grass?" Han Feng slowly stood up from his seat and coldly laughed. While he spoke, he quietly threw a look to an expert from the Demon Flame Valley, ordering him to swiftly gather the guards from the Demon Flame Valley.

"The only person I am against is Han Feng and the Demon Flame Valley. It has nothing to do with anyone else. However, if an outsider intervenes, I will naturally not show any mercy." Xiao Yan slowly walked to the open ground. His soft 'sha sha' footsteps caused quite a number of people seated to feel a pressure. After the matter that had caused an uproar some time, Xiao Yan's fierce reputation had become even greater within the 'Black-Corner Region.' Hence, no one dared to underestimate this man, who looked quite young.

"You need not inform the guards from outside of the Demon Flame Valley. We already got rid of them when we entered..." The quiet action of Han Feng did not escape Xiao Yan's notice. The latter immediately smiled. His smile emitted a bloody scent.

Han Feng and the many Demon Flame Valley experts were stunned when they heard this. Han Feng immediately and furiously cried out, "What a vicious little fellow! Do you really intend to kill off the Demon Flame Valley and not leave anything alive?"

Xiao Yan smiled faintly. His voice was calm as he replied, "When the Demon Flame Valley attacked some of the innocent students from the Jia Nan Academy, it should have expected something like this to happen. Although the Jia Nan Academy dislikes a massacre, she is not foolish

enough to be kind to her enemies.”

Han Feng narrowed his eyes. A cold glint and killing intent surged within them. Majestic Dou Qi lingered over his body. Under the pressure of the Dou Qi, even the tough table in front of him began to split with a cracking sound.

“Looks like you have really come here with the intention of destroying the Demon Flame Valley today. However, it is likely that this plan of yours has gone wrong. With sect leader Mo and Old Ying Shan present, you, as a younger generation, are not allowed to act presumptuously! If you are tactful, you should obediently hand over the Bodhisattva Body Transformation Saliva!” Han Feng cried out in a sinister manner.

Xiao Yan’s eyes moved and turned to Mo Tian Xing and Old Ying Shan by the side. One could neither hear joy nor anger in his tone as he inquired, “Does sect leader Mo and Old Ying Shan plan to stand on the side of the Demon Flame Valley and Han Feng?”

Su Qian and the Little Fairy Doctor behind Xiao Yan stepped forward softly while Xiao Yan spoke. Their eyes locked onto Mo Tian Xing and Old Ying Shan. There was a sense that they would break into a fight at the first disagreement.

Xiao Yan’s sudden appearance had clearly exceeded the expectations of Mo Tian Xing and Old Ying Shan. Due to the Old Ground Demon Ghost, their hearts were quite afraid of him. This was especially the case with Su Qian and the Little Fairy Doctor, two elite Dou Zongs supporting him. The aura of these two people involuntarily weakened a little.

“Chief Xiao, the Bodhisattva Body Transformation Saliva really possesses too much of an attraction to the both of us. Han Feng has used this as an item of persuasion, and the two of us had difficulty rejecting him...” Mo Tian Xing gently rubbed his beard and slowly responded.

“If you are willing to hand the Bodhisattva Body Transformation Saliva over, the two of us will leave immediately. We will not intervene in the matter between you and Han Feng.” Old Ying Shan’s gaze locked onto Xiao Yan as he spoke with a deep voice.

A fury immediately surged in Han Feng's heart when he heard these words of these two old fellows. These two fellows' words clearly indicated that they had the intention to give in. It was fine if this occurred during an ordinary time. However, Han Feng still needed to borrow their force to form an alliance. By showing their fear in front of Xiao Yan, the other factions and experts would definitely show some intention of withdrawing.

Han Feng's gaze swept over the grounds as this thought flashed in his heart. He did indeed discover that some experts eyes had begun to avoid him. It seemed that the mighty arrival of Xiao Yan had caused quite a number of people to be afraid of participating in this matter...

Xiao Yan was non-committal to Mo Tian Xing's and Old Ying Shan's words. The Bodhisattva Body Transformation Saliva was an essential ingredient in order to be used to help the Little Fairy Doctor control her 'Woeful Poison Body'. Hence, it was impossible for him to hand it over. It appeared that an intense battle was unavoidable today...

"Today is the settling of a grudge between Xiao Gate and the Demon Flame Valley. I hope that anyone not involved will not join in. Anyone who does not stand on the Demon Flame Valley's side will be Xiao Yan's and Xiao Gate's friend. I, Xiao Yan, am still quite friendly to my friends. However, if my enemy is before me... I will definitely eliminate them at their roots!" Xiao Yan climbed the open ground that was built from Black Metal Rock. His aura had suddenly rose as his soft cry clearly resounded beside the ears of everyone present.

The expressions of quite a number of people changed a little as they sensed the powerful aura that spread from Xiao Yan's body. Xiao Yan's current strength had already reached a six star Dou Huang. Adding the effect of 'Flame Mantra' and the 'Heavenly Flames,' the strength of the force was sufficient to contend with an expert at the peak of the Dou Huang class. Other than Han Feng and a couple of others who were not influenced by it, the remaining people felt a muffled feeling of a large rock blocking their chest.

A surprise flashed across the eyes of Han Feng, Mo Tian Xing, and the others in the face of Xiao Yan's even more powerful aura. After they

sensed it carefully, they finally understood that Xiao Yan's strength had advanced a little within these few months. Although his strength had only been raised by one star, this speed was quite terrifying.

"We cannot allow this fellow to act so mightily without any fear..." A coldness flashed across Han Feng's eyes. He turned his head and threw a look toward the gold-silver elders beside him.

The gold-silver elders hesitated for a moment after receiving Han Feng's look. They immediately flashed forward in unison before gently landing on the open ground. Powerful force surged out before finally blocking Xiao Yan's aura. The hearts of the two of them clearly knew that they were unaware of Xiao Yan's true level. All they knew was that he possessed some extremely frightening Dou Technique. As long as Xiao Yan did not use these Dou Techniques, the gold-silver elders had the confidence to hold him back.

However, their understanding of Xiao Yan came from their exchange a couple of years ago. Now... if they were to use the same method to measure him, it was likely that they would pay quite a hefty price.

"Chief Xiao, today is the day where the Demon Flame Valley has invited guest. Those who have come uninvited should leave!" The gold-silver elders cupped their hands to Xiao Yan as they cried out in cold voices.

The instant the two people's words sounded, the slight sound of thunder suddenly spread across the sky. Immediately a pair of long hands grabbed the necks of the two from behind. The bodies of the two people stiffened abruptly the moment the somewhat icy hand landed on their necks. Shock slowly solidified on their faces.

"The two of you no longer have the qualifications to speak to me in this manner..."

A young face slowly extended out from behind the two of them. The force on his hands gradually increased. At this moment, all he needed to do was to exert a little force in order to break the necks of these two people on the spot!

"What... what frightening speed!"

“How can a Dou Huang achieve such a speed?”

The entire place became quiet as they looked at the black-robed, young man who had appeared behind the gold-silver elders as though he had teleported. Surprised voices involuntarily sounded.

At this moment, Xiao Yan maintained his stance with both his hands clenched around the neck of the gold-silver elders. A pair of ten-foot-long bone wings slowly flapped behind him. Each time the bone wings flapped, the slight sound of thunderous roar would appear in the air. A slight wind would also spread with the flapping of the bone wings.

Xiao Yan's speed reached a level where even an ordinary elite Dou Zong had difficulty matching him after unfurling his 'Jade Bone Wings.' Adding this to the ignorance of the gold-silver elders, Xiao Yan had easily restrained them at the first contact. This kind of visual assault gave everyone an enormous shock.

Under the provocation of the vague killing intent that spread from behind them, the forehead of the gold-silver elders emitted a dense, cold perspiration. Their bodies did not dare to even tremble a little. They could clearly sense a hidden force lingering on Xiao Yan's palm. Once this force was unleashed, they, who lacked any defense, would likely lose their lives on the spot!

“Chief... chief Xiao, please... please show mercy.”

The gold elder swallowed his saliva and spoke with a quivering voice. He did not even show the slightest hint of the imposing manner from earlier. Xiao Yan's thunderbolt-like assault had left behind a phobia in their hearts that was difficult to remove. Only now did they understand that the strength of the current Xiao Yan was ahead of them.

Actually, the two of them were unaware that had they not been careless by failing to put up any defenses, Xiao Yan would have difficulty restraining them in the blink of an eye even if he possessed a frightening speed comparable to a Dou Zong. In the end, it was these two old fellows who were careless...

“These two fools. They clearly understand that Xiao Yan is not an

ordinary Dou Huang, yet they actually dared to be this careless...” Han Feng’s facial skin twitched with great force as he sat on his head. He had similarly not expected the gold-silver elders to be defeated at first contact. Would this not end up bestowing Xiao Yan an opportunity to deter everyone? He involuntarily cursed angrily within his heart.

Mo Tian Xing and Old Ying Shan frowned as they looked at the pair of jade bone wings from under the leader’s seat. With their eyesight, they were naturally able to tell that the reason Xiao Yan possessed such a frightening speed was because of the effect of the bone wings... moreover, they clearly remembered that Xiao Yan’s speed was far inferior to this during their first exchange.

Mo Tian Xing knit his brows as he stared at the extremely familiar bone wings. A moment later, he finally recalled something. Was this pair of bone wings not the bone wings from the Magical Beast corpse that Xiao Yan had obtained from the auction?

It was unexpected that the Magical Beast corpse that they had deemed to be useless would actually be fiddled with by Xiao Yan until it possess such a frightening impact. From the looks of it, Mo Tian Xing had really suffered extreme losses from this transaction...

“Dammit... I was taken advantaged by this brat...”

Mo Tian Xing’s heart released such a thought as he stared at the bone wings with heated eyes.

Chapter 912: Protector Xuan

Xiao Yan indifferently glanced at the gold-silver elders whose bodies had completely stiffened. His finger contained a force that was flicked. The sharp force penetrated the heads of the two people. Their eyes turned black and they fainted from the strike.

Xiao Yan held each of them with one hand and randomly threw them onto the open ground as though he was throwing out garbage. The low sound that came from the smashing of the bodies on the ground caused the eyes of quite a number of people to twitch. All of them felt a silent pity for the unlucky gold-silver elders.

After doing all this, Xiao Yan finally patted his hands. He turned around, looked at Mo Tian Xing, and said, "Sect leader Mo, has your sect's junior sect leader been unconscious?"

Everyone's hearts were filled with doubt upon hearing these words of Xiao Yan that appeared from nowhere. However, the face of Mo Tian Xing changed drastically. He furiously looked at Xiao Yan and cried out, "Is the matter of my son being poisoned caused by you?"

The matter of Mo Ya being poisoned was naturally not related to Xiao Yan. He was unconcerned when he heard the Little Fairy Doctor mention it to him after the matter. Now that he had suddenly recalled it, it seemed that it would be a great chip to play.

"Back then, you and I were enemies. He also wished to kill me. Isn't it normal for me to use some tactics?" Xiao Yan calmly replied. His face did not change because of the furious Mo Tian Xing.

Mo Tian Xing was dull. He immediately clenched his teeth and said in a deep voice. "Hand the antidote over to me, and I can treat this as though it had never happened."

"I can give you the antidote but you cannot participate in the matter between Xiao Gate and the Demon Flame Valley. Otherwise..." A viciousness appeared on Xiao Yan's smiling face when he spoke until this point. One was undoubtedly wasting one's breath by attempting to

persuade this cunning fox. The effect of speaking everything openly was instead much greater.

Mo Tian Xing immediately clenched his fist tightly when he heard this. He seemed to hesitate a little. Seeing his hesitation, Han Feng hurriedly said, "Sect leader Mo, has Mo Ya been poisoned by Xiao Yan? Do not fall for his trap. I also know a little about detoxification. I will help remove the poison once this matter is over."

"You really think highly of yourself. An alchemist and a poison master are two clearly defined occupations. An ordinary poison might be solved by some ordinary antidote. However, the poison within young sect leader Mo Ya is not an ordinary poison. I think that this point is something that sect leader Mo understands very well. Hence, if you really wish to hand your son's life to an alchemist who does not specialize in poison, you are accepting a great risk..." Xiao Yan glanced at Han Feng and mocked him before involuntarily shaking his head.

Hearing Xiao Yan's words, Mo Tian Xing, who was a little convinced by Han Feng, hesitated again. A moment later, he finally asked in a low solemn manner, "Do you dare hat you will completely cure my son of the poison within his body after this is over?"

"I use the name of Xiao Gate to guarantee my word. Sect leader Mo, you can rest assured that Xiao Yan does not wish to easily offend an elite Dou Zong unless it is absolute necessary..." Xiao Yan smiled and spoke after hearing Mo Tian Xing's somewhat desperate tone.

Mo Tian Xing's face stiffened. A moment later, he finally nodded his head.

"Alright, the old me shall believe you this once!"

"Sect leader Mo, this little fellow is full of tricks. He is clearly attempting to divide us. It is not as though you are unaware of his strength. If he wishes to settle the scores in the future, the strength of your Black Emperor Sect would likely have difficulty blocking him!" A ferocious fury flashed across Han Feng's eyes when he saw that Mo Tian Xing was actually convinced by Xiao Yan to withdraw. On the surface, however, he

spoke with great regret.

“I do not wish to use my son as stakes...” Mo Tian Xing gloomily responded. He had put in tons of effort to groom Mo Ya for many years. Naturally, it was impossible for him to simply watch his son lose his life under the torture of this poison. Moreover... the reason that this old fellow was able to reply so quickly was also because of the situation. The way he saw it, even if Han Feng successfully formed the alliance, it was likely difficult for him to contend with Xiao Gate and the Jia Nan Academy. After all, the uncertainty factor of Xiao Yan was a little too great. Hence, it was difficult for him to tell just who would be victorious in this fight between both parties. Hence, taking the opportunity to withdraw from the battle and watch the fight between the tigers from afar was not a bad decision.

It was naturally difficult for Han Feng to guess the many concerns in Mo Tian Xing's heart quickly. However, even if he managed to guess it, it was likely that the fury in his heart would not be weakened. An elite Dou Zong backing off at the last moment was undoubtedly a great blow to him. This was especially the case at this moment. The originally uncertain 'Black-Corner Region' factions would likely feel timid now.

Hence, the atmosphere of the open ground had become much stranger after Mo Tian Xing said that he would not participate. Some of the factions and experts on the open ground also quietly turned their eyes away from Han Feng. Some of them even lifted their winecups, poured some wine in, and drank by themselves, ignoring the strange atmosphere around them.

Old Ying Shan's face had similarly become somewhat unnatural. If Mo Tian Xing were to withdraw, how could their side contend with Xiao Yan's group. After all, the other party had the equivalence of three elite Dou Zongs, including Xiao Yan...

The corner of Xiao Yan's mouth slowly lifted into a cold smile when he sensed the slight transformation within the place. His eyes obscurely threw a look of praise to the Little Fairy Doctor. If she had not randomly poisoned Mo Ya after feeling extremely irritated at his harassment back

then, it was likely that he would have difficulty getting Mo Tian Xing to withdraw today. Once Mo Tian Xing withdrew, Han Feng's side would have difficulty creating much waves. After all, just Han Feng and Old Ying Shan strength would have difficulty turning the tide. Moreover, with Old Ying Shan's cautious character, it was likely that he would rationally give up after knowing that he was no match for the opponents regardless of how much desire he felt...

Xiao Yan's hand was waved gently. Su Mei, Wu Tie, Old Ying Gu, and the many experts who had come to help also slowly spread like an opening fan and coincidentally formed a semicircle shape that partially surrounded the in the open ground. The exit of the open ground was also completely blocked. If they were not careful, this Demon Flame Valley might really be removed from the 'Black-Corner Region' today.

A faint fierce aura quietly spread following the movement of the many experts. Some of the experts with insufficient mental strength were unable to endure the pressure that lingered in their hearts and quietly left their seats...

Xiao Yan did not stop those who had left their seats. Their target today was Han Feng and the Demon Flame Valley. It had nothing to do with the other factions in the 'Black-Corner Region'. If he were to attack them here, he would really force them to join Han Feng. It was naturally impossible for Xiao Yan to do such a foolish thing.

Han Feng's expression grew more dark and dense as people began to rise from their seats and leave one after another. Awhile later, his face was finally covered under a dark dense shadow. A vicious low voice slowly sounded.

"Xiao Yan, originally, I wanted to allow you to live a little longer. However, since you insist on seeking death, do not blame me for not considering our relationship as people who share the same teacher!"

Xiao Yan knit his brows when he heard this. What other tricks did this fellow have?

Having understood Xiao Yan's thoughts, Han Feng slowly raised his

head. His face had a strange smile hanging on it. After which, an unusual laughter was transmitted from his mouth in an ear-piercing manner, “Protector Xuan, please intervene!”

“Bang! Bang!”

Han Feng’s laughter had just sounded when waves of black fog suddenly erupted from the surrounding mountain walls. Black fog curled and rose. Immediately, dozens of human figures hidden under the black fog appeared in front of everyone’s eyes.

The sudden unexpected occurrence caused everyone present to be shocked. They immediately panicked a little as they looked all over the place.

“People from the ‘Hall of Souls?’ It is unexpected that Han Feng has actually made contact with them!” This unexpected change had also caused Xiao Yan’s group to be slightly startled. After which, Xiao Yan’s face changed as he spoke in a dense manner.

“There is no need to be worried. Other than one of them whose strength is at the Dou Zong class, there is no need to be afraid of the remaining people.” Su Qian and the Little Fairy Doctor moved. Su Qian opened his mouth and spoke when they appeared beside Xiao Yan.

Mo Tian Xing and Old Ying Shan were stunned because of the change of the situation within the battleground. It was unexpected that Han Feng appeared to have kept some tricks. There was an expert at the Dou Zong class among these people within the mysterious black fog...

“Tsk tsk, Xiao Yan, do you think that my information would actually be so easily obtained by your Xiao Gate? Everything you know about this is merely information that I have released on purpose. My aim is to attract you over. It is unexpected that you have really taken the bait...” Han Feng strangely laughed. A moment later, he turned to Mo Tian Xing and Old Ying Shan. He smiled and said, “You two. Is it much more secure cooperating with me now? However, there is no need for the both of you to act now...”

“Protector Xuan, this person is Xiao Yan. He is also someone from the Jia

Ma Empire's Xiao clan which the 'Hall of Souls' is spending a great effort to investigate. The thing that you need might be on him. Tsk tsk, even if the thing is not on him, this little fellow has two kinds of 'Heavenly Flame' within him. It is likely that the effects of capturing him and handing him to an Honorable Elder within the hall would satisfy them more than any ordinary soul!" Han Feng raised his head and loudly spoke to a person with the densest fog surrounding him.

"Xiao Yan huh? Hee hee, I have heard Protector Wu mention you. A little troublesome... however, it is fortunate that I have received information about you and have prepared quite a lot of things before hurrying over..." A hoarse voice was transmitted from the lingering black fog before reverberating in an unusually ear-piercing manner beside everyone's ears.

"Protector Wu?" A bloody redness suddenly surged into Xiao Yan's eyes when he heard this familiar name. A furious killing intent churned unceasingly like a wave in his heart.

"It seems that you possess great hatred toward Protector Wu. Hee hee, it is expected. Your teacher was captured by that fellow in front of you. As his disciple, you would definitely feel terrible. However, you need not be bothered. You will be able to see your teacher soon..." The person within the black fog let out a sinister laugh before suddenly crying out in a cold voice.

"All Spirit Envoys listen up. Form the Ten Thousand Soul Swallowing Formation!"

When the cry sounded, one could see black fog surging out from the black shadows on the mountain walls in all directions. Immediately, the fog formed a black cloud that covered the valley. After which, a couple of black fog-like things, that were spinning, flew out. A faint glow that was emitted from within them as numerous illusionary spiritual bodies with a pairs of bright-red eyes surged out like evil ghosts. Finally, they emitted a terribly sharp cry that caused one's blood to boil as they shot toward everyone within the valley from all directions.

The savage smile on Han Feng's face became even denser as he sat on

the leader's seat and watched the countless spirits surge out.

Chapter 913: Fire Spirit Revealing Its Might

The black clouds covered the sun and lingered in the sky above the valley. The originally clear sky had turned dark almost instantaneously. The strange black fog seemed to be something where even sunlight had difficulty penetrating.

Countless numbers of sharp ear-piercing cries reverberated unceasingly within the valley. Dense spirits penetrated the black fog, appearing like evil ghosts that remained hidden during the night. Their blood-red eyes appeared exceptionally sinister within the dark environment.

“Everyone, be careful, these are spiritual bodies that are controlled by them!”

Xiao Yan’s expression sank slightly as he looked that the souls lingering in the sky. Finally he cried out in a deep voice.

Su Mei and the other experts were also shocked at this unexpected change. They immediately rushed to Xiao Yan’s side. Their eyes revealed a solemnness as they looked at the dense-black cloud in the sky. The closely packed randomly dancing spirits caused their heads to feel numb.

“Tsk tsk tsk tsk tsk. In order to successfully capture you, this protector has put in sufficient capital. These are the souls successfully gathered by me after three full years. The formation that is created by them can be considered to be worthy of all of you...” Protector Xuan looked at the spreading black clouds from the mountain wall and sinisterly laughed.

Xiao Yan’s eyes narrowed as he looked at the black cloud that had spread across the sky. With his eyesight, he was naturally able to tell that this black fog hid many spirits. The density and number caused even him to gently inhale a breath of air. It looks like this Protector Xuan had really invested in this plan. This so-called Ten Thousand Soul Swallowing Formation required a large number of spirits. Back then, even in the Chu Yun Empire, that Protector Tie from the ‘Hall of Souls’ was far from able

to meet the requirements of creating such a large formation.

“Hee hee, Xiao Yan, are you satisfied with the feast this time around? Once you fall to the hands of the ‘Hall of Souls,’ I will make a request for me to properly ‘take care’ of you!” Han Feng’s face was covered with a ferocity as he laughed loudly at Xiao Yan.

Xiao Yan glanced at him before his gaze returned to the spreading black cloud. This so-called ‘Ten Thousand Soul Swallowing Formation’ clearly possessed an incredible strength. It was likely somewhat troublesome to break...

“Blood Feed!”

The black fog around Protector Xuan on the mountain wall was slowly withdrawn. Finally, it transformed into a vague-black figure with a blurry appearance. With a flick of his finger, waves of bright-red fresh blood spat out and scattered into the black cloud.

Following the scattering of the fresh blood, threads of a strange dark-red color immediately rose within the black-colored fog. A countless number of sharp cries were emitted from within it. The spirits that were being mercilessly tortured started to churn and struggle within. A moment later, the black cloud suddenly paused. It was silent for an instant before many fierce blood-colored spirits scattered down like a storm. Their faces were filled with savage a bloodthirsty expression as they shot toward Xiao Yan’s group.

“Be careful!”

The sudden change caused Xiao Yan to be startled. He let out a deep cry as he clenched his fist. A jade-green flame pillar shot toward the sky. Any of the blood-colored spirits that were touched by the flame had their illusionary bodies incinerated. Sharp miserable cries repeatedly sounded.

The fire pillar swiftly swept over the place under Xiao Yan’s control. Its high temperature caused the violent blood spiritual body to withdraw a little. However, their numbers were really too frightening. Hence, there were still quite a number of them that shot forth with all their might and bit at Su Mei and the others.

“Bang!”

The strength of those experts who had been invited by Xiao Yan were naturally not weak. They had summoned Dou Qi to cover their bodies some time ago. Seeing that these spirits were pouncing over like a pack of wolves, their Dou Qi was immediately spat out from their bodies before violently hacking at these spirits.

The sharp blades within their Dou Qi had the strength to split a mountain. When the spirits made even the slightest contact with them, they were split apart. However, these spirits that were killed transformed into some grayish gas in the blink of an eye. They swiftly curled and rose up, finally entering the black cloud and causing the pressure that was transmitted from the cloud layer to become even denser...

“Dammit, the damage that Dou Qi inflicts on these spiritual bodies isn’t very great. Moreover, there is an endless number of these spiritual bodies. If this is to continue, we will sooner or later die of exhaustion!” The long lance in Xiao Li’s hand swiftly shook. Each time his silver lightning affinity Dou Qi moved, it would penetrate a spirit. However, dealing with a little spirit was basically insignificant when compared with the wolf pack like numbers behind. After killing dozens of spirits in this manner, he finally involuntarily gasped for breath and cried out to Xiao Yan.

The Little Fairy Doctor and Su Qian beside Xiao Yan did not move immediately. Instead, they were frowning as they looked at the dense-black cloud. With their eyesight, they were naturally able to discover that with an increasing number of spirits being killed, the strength contained within the cloud layer seemed to become stronger...

“This formation is somewhat unusual...” Xiao Yan flicked his five fingers. Five flames shot out from them and incinerated five spirits into nothingness. He looked at the five extremely faint grayish vapors that were rising when he knit his brows and softly spoke.

“The formidability of this formation is not the endless spiritual attacks. Actually, they are merely food. Each time a spirit is killed, a pure spiritual strength is absorbed by the black cloud. With the gathering of an

increasing amount of spiritual strength, a fierce spirit that is agglomerated from the tens of thousands of brutal spirits will appear in the cloud layer. This fierce spirit will be connected with Protector Xuan's spirit. In other words, this fierce spirit would be an avatar of Protector Xuan. Moreover, its strength would definitely not be weaker than him... Of course, if the avatar is destroyed, Protector Xuan would also suffer a serious backlash. If he is unable to endure it, he would at the very least fall to the Dou Huang class. Should things be more serious, his mind might be occupied by the fierce spirit and turn into a puppet that only knows how to kill."

Su Qian's eyes stared intently at the black cloud above his head. He continued in a deep voice, "Moreover, from what I know, each time one uses such a large formation, the number of spirits one exhausts is not small. Normally speaking, very few people from the 'Hall of Souls' would use such a formation. This is because if one is unable to obtain a reward equivalent to these spirits after using the formation, they would definitely suffer a serious punishment by the 'Hall of Souls.' That taste is worse than death..."

"Perhaps he thinks that the value of capturing me is sufficient to exhaust all these spirits..." Xiao Yan softly replied. A killing intent that had never existed before was revealed in his eyes.

Su Qian nodded slightly. He said, "If one wants to break this formation, one can only kill Protector Xuan, who is the commander of the formation. However, that fellow has long since hid himself under the black cloud. Additionally, there are a countless number of spirits covering him. It is going to be difficult to find him..."

"Does Elder Su mean that we can only kill him after waiting for the fierce spirit to successfully agglomerated?" The Little Fairy Doctor's eyebrows were vertical as she spoke. If that fierce spirit were to be successfully formed, it was likely that the other party would have four elite Dou Zongs excluding Mo Tian Xing. Thus, their situation would not be a good one.

Su Qian bitterly laughed. After all, he only possessed a little knowledge about this Ten Thousand Soul Swallowing Formation...

Xiao Yan frowned. He, too, felt a headache. The tactics of the 'Hall of Souls' were indeed unorthodox. However, they caught one off guard each time they were used.

"Hee hee, little fellow, the Fallen Heart Flame is the nemesis of spirits. Ordinary spirits try to run from it as quickly as possible. You actually have a headache? The presence of two kinds of 'Heavenly Flame' in your body is indeed something that even the old me never expected. The 'Heavenly Flame's that is formed after the merger might be stronger than the Fallen Heart Flame in terms of strength. However, it is also this kind of merger that weakens a little of the unique spirit destroying effect of the Fallen Heart Flame. Have you not noticed that any spirit that was killed by this kind of flame by you would have a much fainter spiritual strength fleeing from it compared to the others? If you were to purely use the Fallen Heart Flame, these spirits... will be turned into nothingness. Not even a little of it will escape... Of course, you must remember to use the flame controlling skill of the 'Five Ring Flame Expelling Technique' when you control the Fallen Heart Flame. Otherwise, how would you be able to deal with so many spirits with your crude flame controlling method?" A soft, old voice suddenly sounded in Xiao Yan's heart while he was deep in thought.

Xiao Yan's finger involuntarily rubbed the snow-white ring on his finger when he heard this voice. A glow flickered in his eyes. Being the former owner of the Fallen Heart Flame, the understanding that Tian Huo zun-zhe had over it naturally far exceeded what Xiao Yan could compare with.

"Thank you elder Yao!"

TL: Tian Huo is more like a nickname. His surname is Yao.

Xiao Yan's heart carried joy as he thanked Tian Huo zun-zhe. After which, a thought passed through his heart. The jade-green flame that was lingering around his body paled swiftly. The invisible Fallen Heart Flame replaced it...

Following the appearance of this invisible flame, the blood-colored spirits, charging over from all directions, without knowing what fear was actually revealed a thread of fear within their violent eyes...

“It is indeed effective...” A joy rose in Xiao Yan’s heart when he saw this. The seal on his hand suddenly changed and the invisible flame surged out of his body. Finally, it followed the change of his hand seal and formed a wolf-shaped fire spirit that was over a hundred feet large above his head.

After this wolf fire spirit took shape, the blood-colored spirits that spread across the sky suddenly formed an uneasy commotion. Their charging momentum was also no longer as fearless as it was earlier.

“Ao!”

The fire spirit faced the sky and let out a long wail. An invisible ripple spread from its mouth like soundwaves. All the spirits that were struck by this invisible flame began to tremble. After which, a ‘bang’ sound followed and they were transformed into nothingness. This time around, however, the destruction of the spirit did not form even the slightest spiritual strength...

Following this massacre of the wolf-shaped fire spirit, the people below, who had descended into a bitter struggle with the spirits, also felt the pressure on them being reduced. How could these spirits be a match for everyone after having lost the numerical advantage. They were completely killed off within a couple of hacks and slashed. Finally, the waves of grayish gas that had just been formed were swallowed by the enormous wolf-shaped fire spirit...

Chapter 914: Gathering Fierce Spirit

“Ao ao ao!”

The enormous wolf-shaped fire spirit wailed at the sky. Invisible ripples swiftly spread. The remaining blood-red spiritual bodies were turned into nothingness under the ripples. Not even a little spiritual strength escaped from them...

“Fallen Heart Flame? Brat, I underestimated you. It is unexpected that you are able to control it to such an extent!”

Following this large scale massacre by the wolf-shaped fire spirit, the dark-black cloud that contained traces of dark-redness began to churn. A shocked, furious cry was transmitted from it.

Xiao Yan ignored the angry cry of Protector Xuan. He focused his mind on controlling the enormous wolf-shaped fire spirit. This was the first kind of fire spirit from the ‘Five Ring Flame Expelling Technique.’ With Xiao Yan’s current Spiritual Strength, he naturally did not need to exhaust too much strength to form it. However, the remaining fire spirits became harder and harder to train. Once he succeeded, however, the strength from the gathering of the five kinds of fire spirit would be quite frightening.

Although this was merely the first kind of fire spirit, Xiao Yan was extremely satisfied with its strength after the test earlier. This ‘Five Ring Flame Expelling Technique’ was indeed worthy of being the Dou Skill that Tian Huo zun-zhe made his name with. Such a profound flame controlling technique was likely the most advanced one that Xiao Yan had seen, with the exception of Yao Lao’s abilities.

Black clouds churned in the air. A blood-red color faintly seeped down from it. At a glance it appeared to be filled with a strange gloominess.

Having lost the supplement from the many spirits, the pressure that was spreading from the black cloud slowly came to a stop. Screeches were repeatedly emitted from the churning black cloud.

“Tsk tsk, brat, the strength of the ‘Fallen Heart Flame’ has indeed

exceeded the expectations of this protector. However, you should not naively think that you can break the Ten Thousand Soul Swallowing Formation in this manner!” Protector Xuan’s sinister laughter was suddenly emitted from the permeating black cloud.

“Blood Spirit Poison!”

A blood glow suddenly soared from within the dark-black cloud after Protector Xuan’s cold laughter sounded. Sharp ear-piercing cries were emitted. There was even a faint chewing sound that caused one’s pores to open...

“That fellow has got all the spirits to devour each other. If this continues, a fierce spirit will appear!” Su Qian’s expression was solemn. He could not help but speak in a deep voice as he looked at the strange black-red cloud layer. He sensed the shockingly violent emotion that was being emitted from it.

Xiao Yan knit his brows slightly. He did not give a reply as his hand seal was quickly formed. Numerous illusionary after images appeared. An instant later, his hand seal suddenly paused and his mouth cried out softly, “Go!”

The cry had just left his mouth when a rising substance-like flame suddenly appeared in the eyes of the enormous wolf-shaped fire spirit that was above Xiao Yan’s head. A ten-foot-large invisible flame burned with a bang on its body.

“Ao!”

The wolf-shaped fire spirit, that was emitting a shocking heat from its body, let out a long wail. Immediately, its enormous body rushed forward in an abrupt manner. Within a couple of blinks, it appeared under the black cloud. After which, the wolf-shaped fire spirit violently collided with it.

With the approach of the wolf-shaped fire spirit, the black cloud immediately shrank, appearing as though it had suffered a shock. A brief silence also replaced the sharp cries within it...

“Hmph!”

A cold snort suddenly sounded within the black cloud. Immediately, a part of the black cloud fluctuated. Protector Xuan’s vague figure appeared. One could see his hand being extended before gently pressing down on the wolf-shaped fire spirit.

With the force of his palm, a majestic black-colored fog immediately surged out and intertwined with the invisible flame that lingered on the surface of the wolf-shaped fire spirit as an ear-piercing ‘chi chi’ sound erupted.

Xiao Yan, who had a mental connection with the wolf-shaped fire spirit, frowned as he stood below when the fire spirit was blocked. His hand seal changed and a powerful spiritual ripple surged in a lightning-like manner from the area between his brows. Finally, it entered into the body of the wolf-shaped fire spirit.

Having received Xiao Yan’s powerful support, the invisible flame on the body of the wolf-shaped fire spirit once again soared by over ten feet. Its enormous mouth widened and an extremely hot flame shot toward Protector Xuan.

Protector Xuan’s heart tightened a little as he sensed the invisible ripple contained within his heart. The Fallen Heart Flame’s special searing effect on spirits along with Xiao Yan’s profound flame controlling technique caused its strength to soar greatly. Hence, even Protector Xuan did not wish to face it head-on.

The black fog on Protector Xuan’s body swiftly spread out as this thought appeared in his heart. His body immediately paused and was hidden within the layers of black cloud in a ghost-like manner.

“Chi!”

The invisible fire pillar did not strike Protector Xuan. Instead, it shot into the black cloud and relied on its frightening temperature to tear a seventy-to-eighty-foot-wide hole within the dark black cloud. Xiao Yan’s group narrowed their eyes as their sight penetrated the empty hole. They could only see dense spirits swallowing each other like hungry wolves within the

cloud layer. That manner was just like poison worms within a box, where they mercilessly killed and ate their companion in order to enable themselves to be the last survivor...

Following this endless swallowing of each other, frightening fierceness, violence, and other negative emotions surfaced. That cloud layer breed and spread. Xiao Yan and the others could vaguely sense that a fierce spirit was being swiftly formed within it...

“Explode!”

Xiao Yan’s face was somewhat dark and solemn. His hand was suddenly clenched and the invisible fire pillar that had shot into the cloud layer exploded with a ‘bang.’ a hot fire wave spread out. Any spirit that made contact with it was transformed into nothingness...

After this large scale destruction by the Fallen Heart Flame, the dark-redness within the black cloud seemed to have become paler. Clearly, the attack by Xiao Yan earlier had destroyed a lot.

“Brat, you have destroyed nearly a thousand spirits. This protector will get you to pay this debt after this is over. However, just you alone cannot stop the fierce spirit from being created!” Protector Xuan’s dark, cold voice was slowly transmitted while the cloud layer churned.

Protector Xuan’s voice had just sounded when four unusually powerful spiritual ripples suddenly appeared within the cloud layer. They were like fierce tigers entering the mountains as they charged into the mess of spirits before swallowing wildly...

“These four spirits are spirits that this Protector had spent great efforts during these three years to obtain. They are all experts at the peak of the Dou Huang class when they were alive. Their Spiritual Strengths are unusually strong. Originally, I could not bare to take them out. However, looking at this situation...”

The swallowing strength of the four powerful spirits was extremely frightening. Within less than a minute, the spirits within the cloud layer were completely swallowed. Four spirits that were filled with a violent emotion immediately began to swallow one another. While they

swallowed each other, a rich, dark, cold fog surged down from the cloud layer in all directions, blocking the wolf-shaped fire spirit that had been formed by the Fallen Heart Flame...

“If these four spiritual bodies were to complete the final swallowing, that fierce spirit will appear... the Little Fairy Doctor and I will intervene. We cannot just sit back and wait for things to happen.” Su Qian frowned and spoke as he sensed the pressure that was emitted from the cloud layer.

“If the both of you were to intervene, Han Feng or Old Ying Shan would also intervene... allow me to do it.” Xiao Yan shook his head slightly. His right hand was immediately clenched and a cluster of dark-green flames appeared in his hand. His left hand grabbed toward the Fallen Heart Flame in the sky before swiftly shrinking it. Finally, it transformed into an invisible flame that lingered in front of Xiao Yan.

One green and one invisible flame floated in front of Xiao Yan. They immediately began to merge.

Threads of sparks shot out when the flames were merging. A moment later, a jade-green fire lotus appeared in Xiao Yan’s hand. With Xiao Yan’s current strength, using this kind of ‘Angry Buddha Lotus Flame,’ formed from the merger of two kinds of ‘Heavenly Flame,’ was extremely relaxing and easy...

The flames were successfully merged. Xiao Yan was just about to throw it when Tian Huo zun-zhe’s voice suddenly sounded within his heart, “Wait, don’t destroy that fierce spirit...”

Xiao Yan frowned slightly when he heard this. He spoke within his heart, “Old mister Yao, what do you mean? If that fierce spirit were to be successfully formed, the number of elite Dou Zongs on the other side will exceed ours. The current you... has not recovered your strength.”

Tian Huo zun-zhe laughed. His voice contained a fiery heat, “Just leave this fierce spirit to me. This great amount of Spiritual Strength that has been accumulated will be a great tonic to me. If I can swallow and refine it, my Spiritual Strength would likely be able to recover to the Dou Zong class...”

Xiao Yan's brows were slightly lifted. After which, his hand slowly descended. If Tian Huo zun-zhe were able to recover to the Dou Zong class, it would definitely be a great help to him in the future.

"Old mister Yao, do you have the confidence to do it? That fierce spirit is agglomerated from countless numbers of brutal emotions. If you were to swallow it, it would likely end up influencing your mind..." Xiao Yan hesitated for a moment before speaking.

"Ke ke, that is why I need to trouble you. Once I subdue it in the future, I will need to borrow your Fallen Heart Flame." Tian Huo zun-zhe laughed out loud.

Xiao Yan quietly sighed in relief within his heart. He smiled said, "There is naturally no problem with this. In that case, I will rely on elder."

"Xiao Yan, quick, the fierce spirit is about to be form!"

Su Qian by the side saw that Xiao Yan had remained still after merging the flame. He involuntarily urged him on. If this evil spirit were to be formed, it was likely that he and everyone present would die.

Xiao Yan recovered after hearing Su Qian's voice. He smiled to the latter before raising his head to look at the churning black clouds. He slowly said, "First Elder need not worry. That fierce spirit won't be able to do much..."

After Xiao Yan's voice slowly sounded, the churning cloud in the sky suddenly stiffened amid an incomparably sharp screech. A despotic aura slowly descended from above. The proud wild laughter of Protector Xuan resounded over the sky at this moment, reverberating in a ear-piercing manner across the entire area.

"Xiao Yan, if you obediently surrender today, this Protector will allow you to suffer less!"

Chapter 915: Meeting In Battle

Protector Xuan's wild laughter reverberated over the sky like thunder, causing the expressions of quite a number of people below to change. Immediately, numerous gazes instantly turned to the dense-black cloud. Although the black cloud had already ceased churning at this moment, a solemn-red color was emitted. Some of the people present, who were weaker, felt a violent emotion quietly rising from deep within their hearts wherever this blood-red color move. They quickly guarded their minds while adopting shocked faces.

Su Qian and the Little Fairy Doctor by the side also knit their brows slightly as they sensed the fierceness that was spreading from the black cloud. They did not understand why Xiao Yan did not act earlier. Did he really feel confident enough to finish off this fierce spirit, who would a strength that was sufficient to contend with an elite Dou Zong?

the Little Fairy Doctor might not understand this within her heart but she had exceptional trust in Xiao Yan. She knew that given Xiao Yan's character, he would definitely not do something so foolish...

"Everyone, be careful!" Xiao Li's expression was also solemn. He waved his hand toward everyone and cried out softly.

Without needing a reminder from Xiao Li, the Dou Qi within everyone's body was circulated at their maximum speed. Powerful Dou Qi lingered over the surface of their bodies without scattering. The numerous colors radiating out gave the area an extremely beautiful appearance.

"Tsk tsk, so what if you are careful? Once the fierce spirit is formed, all of you will definitely die today!"

The strange laughter of Protector Xuan was suddenly transmitted from the black cloud. Immediately, the black cloud rippled and began to swiftly scatter. Within a short while, the black cloud that covered the sky above the valley completely dispersed. Warm sunlight once again scattered down from the sky. However, at this moment, everyone did not sense much warmth from the light. There was only a coldness present. The source of

this dense coldness was from the blood-red human figure in the sky...

The size of the human figure was similar to an ordinary person. The blood color that spread over its body was exceptionally dark and gloomy. It appeared as though an unimaginable number of parts had been agglomerated from fresh blood. There was a feeling discharging from it that caused one's head to feel a dense coldness. Additionally, this somewhat illusionary human figure did not possess a face. Only a pair of blood-colored eyes shot out from the spot where the head was located...

The blood-colored eyes did not register even the slightest emotion that a human possessed. Only a kind of endless violence and killing intent was present. This thing was basically a monster that was born to kill...

Xiao Yan and the others watched this blood-colored human figure. Their brows were slightly knit. Was this that so-called fierce spirit? It was indeed very powerful. If one were to be contaminated by that violence and other negative emotions that could influence one's mind, it was likely that there would be a lot of trouble.

Protector Xuan, who was completely wrapped under a black fog, stood in the empty air beside the blood-colored human figure in the sky. He smiled as he looked at the fierce spirit, permeated by violent emotions. He involuntarily parted his mouth and smiled. After looking down at Xiao Yan's group from a high spot, he laughed in a strange manner, "This Protector's target is Xiao Yan. If those unrelated people were to withdraw now, I can allow you to leave."

Although these words appeared to have been spoken to everyone, Protector Xuan's eyes merely paused on Su Qian and the Little Fairy Doctor. Clearly, the only people who could caused him to feel fear among those present were these two individuals.

Su Qian and the Little Fairy Doctor naturally ignored these words of his. The two of them exchanged looks before gently exhaling. Two mighty auras suddenly surged. Sensing the pressure of this powerful force, some of the experts who had come forward to lend a hand from behind Xiao Yan finally relaxed their tensed hearts a little. Experts of the Dou Zong

class were existences that could make others feel safe regardless of where they were.

“Protector Xuan, you should not show such mercy to these fellows who intend to seek death. These people are those that will not cry until they are about to die...” Han Feng’s face involuntarily revealed a smile upon seeing Protector Xuan successfully agglomerating the fierce spirit. He raised his head and laughed loudly.

“In that case, it looks like this Protector can only reluctantly accept the spirits belonging to two experts of the Dou Zong class. Tsk tsk, if I were to possess these two spirits along with the two kinds of ‘Heavenly Flames’ within Xiao Yan’s body, whose credit can be greater than mine when I return to the hall this time around?” Protector Xuan spoke sinisterly.

Han Feng smiled. His gaze was savage as he stared at Xiao Yan and said, “My good junior. If you had continued to hide in the Jia Nan Academy, I would have been unable to do anything to you. However, you delivered yourself to this place. You cannot blame this senior for being tough.”

Xiao Yan glanced at Han Feng as he softly said, “A mere dog that has lost its home. This only allows you to live for a little longer. There is no need to be this happy.”

“You still have the razor tongue that you have always possessed...” The savageness on Han Feng’s face grew denser. His eyes took one look around him before he smiled and spoke in a sinister manner, “Currently, our side has five elite Dou Zongs in total. Today, I will see just who will laugh in the end. We have exchanged blows so many times. This time around, it is likely that this senior will be allowed to win one final exchange!”

Xiao Yan’s eyes narrowed. His eyes suddenly stared at Mo Tian Xing by the side.

“Hee hee, sect leader Mo, do you really think that this little fellow will be able to escape alive this time around? I have said that I have also dabbled a little in poisons and will definitely help expel the poison from your son after this is over. Why do you want to place yourself in a risky position because of a little fellow in decline?” Han Feng glanced at Mo Tian Xing

and laughed coldly after sensing Xiao Yan's gaze.

In this current battleground, Xiao Yan's side could barely contend against three elite Dou Zongs in total. Han Feng's side, on the hand, would have four experts equivalent to a Dou Zong even after excluding Mo Tian Xing. At a glance, it appeared that Han Feng had obtained the upper hand. Hence, at this moment, Mo Tian Xing's position was extremely important. If he were to help Han Feng's group, the chances of Xiao Yan's group being victorious would be extremely low. However, if he were to help Xiao Yan, the number of experts of both parties would be even... the helper that Han Feng had spent great effort to invite over would be meaningless.

Mo Tian Xing also knew his use in the battleground at this moment. However, he still maintained an expressionless face. He naturally also understood that if one were to look at the battleground on the surface, it would appear that Xiao Yan's group was at a disadvantage. However, the cautious him was unwilling to join any group in such a random manner. Although he clearly understood that Xiao Yan currently had the strength of a six star Dou Huang, Mo Tian Xing still felt an exceptional fear for him. The degree of fear he felt even exceeded Su Qian and the Little Fairy Doctor...

After all, these two people did not have the ability to beat a seven star Dou Zong class expert until he was nearly crippled...

This thought swiftly flashed within Mo Tian Xing's heart. A moment later, he smiled faintly and said, "The matter today has become a little too big. The old me does not have the boldness of you young people. Hence, I shall not participate in these matters..."

Han Feng frowned slightly when he heard Mo Tian Xing's words. A cold glint flashed in the deep region of his eyes. However, he adopted a smiling manner on his face. It was fine if Mo Tian Xing did not help him. As long as he did not run over to help Xiao Yan, Han Feng had the confidence to settle all the grudges from the past today!

Regarding how he should deal with Mo Tian Xing, Han Feng naturally had ways to deal with him once he finished off Xiao Yan, this great

enemy...

Xiao Yan appeared to have not heard the conversation between Han Feng and Mo Tian Xing. His body was just like the pole of a spear as he stood straight on the battleground. His finger gently fondled a snow-white ring. A moment later, his chin nodded slightly without anyone noticing. After which, he turned to the Little Fairy Doctor and Su Qian before speaking with a smile, "Leave the fierce spirit and Protector Xuan to me."

Su Qian and the Little Fairy Doctor were startled when they heard this. The fierce spirit and Protector Xuan were two elite Dou Zongs. Moreover, their spirits were connected to one another, allowing them to collaborate extremely well with one another. Unless Xiao Yan used the frightening fire lotus Dou Technique, it was impossible for him to battle with two elite Dou Zongs even with the bone wings enhancing his speed.

Appearing to understand the shock in the hearts of the two of them, Xiao Yan waved his hand and softly laughed, "Relax, I will not do something that will end up killing me..."

Seeing the smile on Xiao Yan's face, Su Qian and the Little Fairy Doctor hesitated for a moment before nodding. With Xiao Yan's usual character, he did not appear to be a reckless person. Since he had said this, it was likely that he might really possess a trump card...

"Tsk tsk, Xiao Yan, you are really as arrogant as Han Feng described. However, it's fine. This protector likes it..." Protector Xuan was stunned for quite awhile after hearing Xiao Yan's words from the sky. Only then did he involuntarily laugh out loud.

Han Feng's brows were knit slightly. He looked at Xiao Yan somewhat uncertainly. This fellow... what was he doing? He was actually challenging two elite Dou Zongs with his Dou Huang class strength? Was he not seeking death?

"First Elder, Little Fairy Doctor, I will leave the others to you..."

Xiao Yan ignored the many gazes filled with ridicule from around him. His shoulders shook and a ten-foot-long jade bone wings slowly extended out. He turned his head to Su Qian and the Little Fairy Doctor before

giving them a smile. Immediately, the bone wings were flapped and his body emitted a 'xiu' sound as it launched through the sky.

"Honestly speaking this is the first time that I have formed a fierce spirit. Today, I will use you as an offering!"

Protector Xuan coldly laughed when he saw Xiao Yan rushing over in a straight line. A thought passed through his mind and the blood-colored illusionary figure beside him suddenly rushed down in a lightning-like manner. Its fist carried a violent wind and a great pressure as it smashed at Xiao Yan.

The fist had yet to arrive when the wind that was contained on it tore through the air and suddenly reached Xiao Yan!

Xiao Yan's dark-black eyes were firmly locked on the blood-colored human figure that was rushing over. The corner of his mouth was slowly lifted into a cold smile. The hand he wore the white ring on was slowly tightened before he swung it!

Xiao Yan actually chose the most disadvantageous head-on confrontation when faced with the attack of an elite Dou Zong. Looking at this scene, the swords drawn atmosphere below become dull. This fellow... was he really seeking death?

The instant many people's expression changed was also the instant that Xiao Yan's fist made contact with the fierce spirit. However, before the force could erupt, the snow-white ring on his finger suddenly flickered and emitted a glaring glow!

Protector Xuan, who had a spiritual connection with the fierce spirit, changed expression the moment this powerful glow appeared!

Chapter 916: Collecting Fierce Spirit

The sudden appearance of the glaring light nearly overshadowed the sunlight from the sky. Quite a number of people were stunned because of this unexpected change. Numerous alarmed gazes were thrown to the sky.

Xiao Yan's fist had made blatant contact with the fierce spirit. However, the strange glow that had erupted from the white-colored ring was just like a barrier that completely blocked the frightening force on the fierce spirit's fist. After which, a wave of powerful suction force surged out of it!

The suction force appeared very suddenly but it was extremely swift and powerful. It was just like a whirlpool rotating at an incredible speed. The source of the swirl was the small snow-white ring.

The suction force had just appeared when it targeted and covered the fierce spirit, still spreading its violence. At this instant, the fierce spirit that originally only had killing intent began to show fear. Its body trembled as it tried to escape the region of the suction force. The miserable screech that was emitted from the fierce spirit contained a craziness and terror.

However, the aim of the fierce spirit escaping did not succeed. Tian Huo zun-zhe within the ring appeared to have the full intent of obtaining it. An unusually strong glow erupted and the suction force grew by a couple of times. The fierce spirit began to emit waves of frightened cries. Its body was just like a wild beast that was pressed under a rock as it struggled to flee.

On top of feeling a joy in his heart, Xiao Yan involuntarily also felt shock as he watched this fierce spirit come closer and closer to the ring despite trying its best to escape. It was unexpected that Tian Huo zun-zhe was able to display such a skill in his condition. It seemed that he did hide something from Xiao Yan. At the very least, he was not without any ability to protect himself as he had claimed...

Xiao Yan has to admit that he would have difficulty suppressing a spirit at the Dou Zong class in such an easy manner. Although, one could not

exclude some unique skills of dealing with the fierce spirit that Tian Huo zun-zhe possessed, any kind of technique still required some self-preservation ability. Although Tian Huo zun-zhe might appear to be in a weak condition, anyone who dared to reveal an evil intention to him would likely find that the unlucky one was themselves...

While this thought lingered in Xiao Yan's heart, Protector Xuan in the sky also felt something regarding the situation of this fierce spirit. He immediately let out a furious roar as he changed the seal formed by his hand. Powerful Spiritual Strength surged out of the black fog!

The resistance of the fierce spirit became increasingly strong with the intervention of Protector Xuan. In the end, it began to gradually withdraw from the range of the suction force!

"Xiao Yan, lend me a hand!" The powerful glow continued to erupt from the ring. However, in the face of the resistance of two Dou Zongs, even Tian Huo zun-zhe was ultimately unable to resist them. A voice subsequently sounded within Xiao Yan's heart.

Xiao Yan's heart tightened upon hearing this. Although he saw that Tian Huo zun-zhe had held back a little, he was still no match for the combination of the fierce spirit and Protector Xuan. He swiftly asked, "How can I help you?"

"Transfer your Spiritual Strength into the ring!"

Tian Huo zun-zhe did not say anything unnecessary at this critical moment as he swiftly replied.

Xiao Yan's expression was solemn as he nodded. His eyes were immediately shut slightly as a powerful Spiritual Strength spread out from between his brows. It immediately surged into the snow-white ring in an unceasing manner. The originally somewhat ancient jade ring had recovered its original white luster as it emitted a faint glow.

With Xiao Yan's support, the suction force erupted from the ring immediately multiplied by a couple of times. After just having taken a couple of steps back, the fierce spirit staggered under the suction force that had erupted. Its body unsteadily pounced forward. However, in the

next instant, it hurriedly maintained a strange stance and resisted with all its might. At this moment, its distance from Xiao Yan was merely half a meter. Xiao Yan could even sniff the wild violence its body gave off...

“Bastard!”

The black fog around Protector Xuan in the sky churned intensely. It faintly revealed a furious face of panic. The strange suction force had an exceptionally powerful effect on Spiritual Strength. Even after joining hands with the fierce spirit, Protector Xuan could only endure the battle. Moreover, this kind of stalemate gradually turned in the favor of Xiao Yan when he gave the ring more Spiritual Strength.

This scene in the sky was also absorbed in the eyes of everyone below. All of their faces immediately became stunned. They did not know what was happening with the strong glow. However, they could hear from the somewhat flustered and exasperated voice of Protector Xuan that his current situation was not very good...

Quite a number of people's heart felt an absurd feeling when they thought about this. Two experts of the Dou Zong strength were actually being manipulated by a little Dou Huang brat? Although everyone knew that Xiao Yan was different from an ordinary Dou Huang, the fierce spirit and Protector Xuan were both genuine elite Dou Zongs no matter how one put it. If the two of them were to join hands, it was likely that not a single person present would dare pat their chest and say that he could contend with the both of them alone.

At this moment... Something that even these elite Dou Zongs present were unable to do was being done by this black-robed, young man in the sky in front of everyone's eyes. This scene did not allow anyone to not feel shock within their hearts.

Han Feng's expression at this moment was also unnaturally ugly. The cold smile that had surfaced earlier because of Xiao Yan's arrogant act had slowly stiffened since the strong light appear. No matter how he thought he was unable to think of what Xiao Yan could rely on to block the fierce spirit and Protector Xuan.

Han Feng knew that Xiao Yan's fire lotus Dou Technique was extremely powerful. However, the latter was clearly not using that kind of Dou Technique at this moment. However, the appearance of Protector Xuan and the fierce spirit... caused his heart to gradually sink. The overwhelming confidence from earlier had been significantly reduced.

Mo Tian Xing by the side glanced at Han Feng without leaving a trace. A gloating expression flashed across his hearts. He had long said that one could not use common sense to deduce what Xiao Yan would do. If one became enemies with him, various unexpected changes would cause one to have difficulty defending. Actually, a guess had already appeared in his heart when Xiao Yan had decided to meet the fierce spirit and Protector Xuan head-on. With his understanding of Xiao Yan, acting without thought was not something that this cautious fellow would do.

"It is fortunate that I did not get involved. Hee hee, the old me should just treat this as watching a show. It is best to avoid participating in this kind of situation where the victor is unknown..."

Mo Tian Xing's footsteps slowly withdrew as he laughed within his heart. This position was not far from the mountain wall. He would be able to leave at the first instance should any unexpected event occur. This careful old fellow was actually still considering his retreat path even at such a moment. He was indeed worthy of being a cunning old fox who had lived for so many years...

"Old Ying Shan. Do it. Kill Xiao Yan!"

A cold cry that was filled with killing intent sounded within this tense atmosphere. Immediately, Han Feng's figure suddenly shot to the sky and approached Xiao Yan within an instant. He clenched his fist and a sharp longsword that was agglomerated from Dou Qi surfaced from it. The longsword shook, carrying a clear sword hum as it violently pierced toward Xiao Yan's neck.

"Hmph!"

The longsword had just moved when a cold snort sounded beside Han Feng's ears. A graceful and moving figure appeared beside Xiao Yan. Her

hand was extended and it immediately grabbed the longsword. Grayish air erupted and a powerful corrosive strength instantly corroded the longsword into nothingness. After which, a palm struck out!

Wind moved along with the palm and a thread of faint stench appeared with it. This wind drifted toward Han Feng, appearing to be completely void of any strength.

Han Feng's expression was solemn as he faced this seemingly powerless palm. His toes pressed against the empty air as his body swiftly flashed back and dodged it. He swept his eyes sinisterly under him, only to see that Old Ying Shan, who was a little slowly to act, had also been delayed by Su Qian. His heart involuntarily let out a curse.

The Little Fairy Doctor struck and forced Han Feng back one blow at a time. She did not step forward and attack. Instead, she stood beside Xiao Yan. Her cold gaze remained locked on Han Feng.

The Little Fairy Doctor's white dress gently fluttered as she stood in the empty air. Her alluring graceful figure was vaguely visible underneath it, appearing quite enchanting. Her long snow-like hair extended to her narrow waist, a waist one could encircle with an arm. By combining this with her grayish-purple eyes, an unusual magical charm suddenly appeared and caused an unusual flicker to appear in the eyes of quite a number of people...

This magical charm, however, caused the current Han Feng to be extremely furious when it appeared in his eyes. He clearly understood that the Little Fairy Doctor was a little stronger than him. With her protecting Xiao Yan, it was going to be difficult for his attack to succeed.

When he thought until this point, Han Feng could only throw his gaze to the spot where Protector Xuan was located. Currently, all he could was hope that the latter could stop Xiao Yan's unusual tactic. Otherwise... today...

A frightening low roar was transmitted from within the cluster of black fog after this thought flashed across Han Feng's heart.

"Dammit, what are you planning to do?"

Han Feng's heart immediately became chilled when he heard this roar from Protector Xuan. His gaze slide toward Xiao Yan, only to see the fierce spirit in front of him swiftly approaching him. After which... a chewing sound appeared. The spirit was absorbed into a white-colored ring on Xiao Yan's hand under that intense light!

"It is that ring that is doing this trick?" Han Feng's heart immediately became surprised when he looked at the ring. However, with his strength, it was difficult for him to sense Tian Huo zun-zhe hidden within it.

One could see the black fog around Protector Xuan churn intensely when the fierce spirit was absorbed into the ring. It swiftly became pale. A mere moment later, it revealed a black figure. At this moment, the figure was somewhat blurry. One could even sense a kind of illusionary feeling when looking at it. Its aura had also become much weaker and more chaotic compared to before...

Clearly, after the fierce spirit, which had a spiritual connection with Protector Xuan, was captured, the former had suffered a nearly fatal blow. His spirit was greatly wounded and the damage could be described as miserable. This point was something that one could tell from how difficult it was for the black fog to continue to hide his body...

With Protector Xuan's current condition, it was likely that even Xiao Yan would be able to capture him. One could tell... this Protector Xuan was currently... crippled!

Chapter 917: Kill

The glaring light suddenly disappeared. Protector Xuan's frightened and furious roar sounded at the same time.

"Xiao Yan, return the fierce spirit to this protector! Otherwise, I will definitely let you die an extremely miserable!"

Xiao Yan completely ignored Protector Xuan's furious roar. The fierce spirit had been connected to Protector Xuan's spirit. Now that the fierce spirit had been captured, he would suffer an intense backlash. With his Spiritual Strength suffering a great blow, his strength would definitely decline. The current him already posed no problem and was nothing to be afraid of.

At this moment, Xiao Yan's eyes were surprised as he stared at the white-colored ring on his hand. He could faintly see a bright-redness on the ring's surface. However, Xiao Yan was unable to probe the ring to see the situation within it probably because of the ring itself or Tian Huo zun-zhe.

"Xiao Yan, the fierce spirit has temporarily been sealed by me. However, the Spiritual Strength that I have stored is basically completely exhausted. The exhaustion this time around is too great and I will soon descend into a slumber. You must definitely remember to help me repair and moisten my spirit within ten days. Otherwise, my spirit will likely be completely scattered... at that time, the fierce spirit I have sealed will likely appear once again." Tian Huo zun-zhe's voice suddenly sounded in Xiao Yan's heart while Xiao Yan was feeling surprise. This time around, his voice contained a kind of weakness that was difficult to hide. Despite subduing the fierce spirit, the exhaustion he felt was immense.

Xiao Yan was startled when he heard this. He hurriedly asked in his heart, "Within ten days? Old mister Yao, this is not a joke. Some of the medicinal ingredients required to repair a spirit are extremely difficult to find. Where would I go and find them within ten days?"

"I am not asking you to completely heal my spirit within ten days. It is

fine as long as you are able to get something to nourish my spirit and wake me up from my slumber.” Tian Huo zun-zhe’s voice immediately sounded in reply. Moreover, it was even more anxious. It seemed that he had little remaining time left.

Xiao Yan only sighed in relief when he heard these words. It was not difficult to randomly get something to nourish one’s spirit. He should be able to do that within ten days...

“Old mister Yao, please rest assured that the little me will definitely summon you from your slumber within ten days.” Xiao Yan spoke in a solemn voice. Although he could not trust Tian Huo zun-zhe completely like he trusted Yao Lao, Tian Huo zun-zhe’s presence would really benefit Xiao Yan. Regardless of whether it was in terms of experience or training, these extremely old demons would be able to provide him with a lot of help.

“He he, the old me can rest assured with these words of yours. I’ll leave it to you. This matter is extremely important...” Tian Huo zun-zhe relaxed only after hearing Xiao Yan’s reply. He and Xiao Yan might have only been acquainted for a short period of time, but his old, sharp eyes were able to tell a little about Xiao Yan’s character. It was due to this that he dared to hand this life of his to Xiao Yan at such a time. Although this was partly due to the situation forcing his hand, it also required him to trust Xiao Yan...

The words of Tian Huo zun-zhe became weaker. When the final word landed, his voice had completely scattered. Xiao Yan could vaguely sense the spirit within the white-colored ring become dim...

Xiao Yan tightened his fist and gently exhaled a breath of air. He withdrew his hand that contained the ring into his sleeves before slowly lifting his head to study the crazy-looking Protector Xuan with a cold smile. This intervention by Tian Huo zun-zhe had basically given the latter a fatal blow. Not only was the fierce spirit captured, but Protector Xuan’s spirit was also severely damaged. Even if he could leave this place alive this time around, his future strength would likely drop to the Dou Huang class... this was a feeling even worse than death for Protector Xuan.

Protector Xuan's illusionary black figure stood somewhat unsteadily in the sky. His eyes were viciously glaring at Xiao Yan. Coarse breaths were repeatedly emitted from his mouth. A painful feeling occasionally appeared on his face. The waves of piercing pain that had been transmitted from his spirit caused him, someone who had suffered serious losses, to possess a nearly crazy impulse.

"Return the fierce spirit to me. I can use my spirit to swear that I will leave immediately. If you are willing, I can even help you kill Han Feng" Protector Xuan's hand covered his forehead and softly roared.

Han Feng's expression a short distance away also turned cold when he heard Protector Xuan's words. A killing intent flashed across his eyes. It was unexpected that this Protector Xuan would actually be this unreliable.

"Protector Xuan, it is useless saying all this now. With Xiao Yan's character, he will definitely not return the fierce spirit to you. Hence, you might still stand a chance if you really risk your life and go all out against him." Han Feng glanced at Xiao Yan before speaking in a cold voice.

"Shut up!"

Protector Xuan's eyes turned cold as he furiously yelled at Han Feng. From the way he saw it, had Han Feng not used so many reasons to attract him here, he would not have come to the 'Black-Corner Region' and got involved in this mess. In the end, he gained nothing, and had gotten into a mess. Moreover, whether or not he had the life to leave was altogether another manner. The anger in his heart was somewhat pushed onto Han Feng.

Han Feng also let out a cold smile after being reprimanded by Protector Xuan. He did not continue to argue with him. All that had occurred was a killing intent in his heart. It was likely that he would quietly murder Protector Xuan even if he did not die in this place today...

Protector Xuan's mouth was panting as his blood-red eyes turned toward Xiao Yan with a 'shua' sound. A wildness had gradually surged into his eyes because of the intense pain that was transmitted from his spirit. His tone was dense as he asked, "Are you going to return it or not?"

Xiao Yan kept his indifferent manner in the face of Protector Xuan's crazy eyes. He glanced at Han Feng and half-smiled as he said, "If you really kill Han Feng, I might give it some thought..."

"I will act immediately if you return the fierce spirit to me!" Protector Xuan could not be bothered with other things. He hurriedly made another demand when he heard the suspiciousness from Xiao Yan's tone being reduced. However, he did not sense the a gaze on his back full of killing intent.

Xiao Yan's eyes smiled as they looked at Protector Xuan. The ridicule in his eyes was becoming denser.

Protector Xuan finally understood that he had been tricked after having sensed the mocking gaze of Xiao Yan... the panting from his mouth grew more intense. The viciousness in his eyes also became denser. A moment later, a wild roar was finally emitted from his mouth, "Ten Spirit Envoys, kill him!"

The ten black figures on the mountain wall did not hesitate. They suddenly rushed forth after hearing Protector Xuan's roar. Immediately, ten enormous dark-black chains tore through the air like poison snakes. They shot toward Xiao Yan while emitting a clanging sound.

Xiao Yan widened his mouth as he looked at the chains being shot over indifferently. He widened his mouth and a cluster of jade-green flames was spat out. His hand moved and formed a seal. The flame wiggled and turned into ten large flame hands. They were violently clenched as they grabbed the chains. After which, a thread of hot jade-green fire followed the chains and rushed toward the ten black figures.

"Chi chi!"

The flame climbed the chains and immediately emitted waves of 'chi chi' sounds. The black fog around the ten black figures also became much fainter. A pair of somewhat shocked and furious eyes was revealed within each black fog.

Waves of cold black fog repeatedly surged out of the bodies of these black figures. After which, they tried their best to prevent the spreading of

the fire. However, these Spirit Envoys' strengths were clearly far inferior to Protector Xuan's. Hence, they did not manage to extinguish even a little of the strange fire after struggling for quite awhile. Having no other choice, they could only hurriedly abandon the chains.

Xiao Yan let out a cold laugh the moment the chains left their hands. He clenched his fist and the ten flame hands immediately transformed into raging flames that completely wrapped around the chains. In an instant, the dark-black chain had transformed into flame chains.

Under Xiao Yan's control, the flame chains appeared like ten long rods. They transformed into a fire glow that suddenly shot back along their original path with the flick of a finger.

Chi! Chi! Chi!

The speed of the flame chains was extremely quick. Within the blink of an eye, it launched past the distant air and appeared in front of the ten Spirit Envoys. In their shock, the ten black figures hurriedly retreated. However, their speed was on a completely different level when compared to the flame chains. Hence, the figures had just moved when the flame chains arrived. After which... they were like sharp swords as they violently penetrated their chests!

The ten figures immediately stiffened following the penetration of the fire chains. The chains also slowly became softer. Finally, they abruptly fell from the sky. The jade-green flame on them swiftly left and returned to Xiao Yan's body in front of everyone's eyes...

Within a short couple of exchanges, the ten Spirit Envoys, whose strength were at the Dou Wang class, were killed by Xiao Yan's hands. This scene caused quite a number of people present to quietly swallow a mouthful of saliva. A combination of ten expert Dou Wangs would be able to fight a little even if they were facing an expert Dou Huang. It was unexpected that they were so worthless in Xiao Yan's hands.

The glow in Xiao Yan's eyes gradually soared after killing the ten Spirit Envoys. The bone wings on his back were flapped and a wind-lightning sound appeared. His body then appeared in front of Protector Xuan in a

ghost-like manner.

“Since you have come, there is no longer a need for you to leave. The people from the ‘Hall of Souls’... all deserve to die!”

A savage arc was lifted on Xiao Yan’s face as his palm abruptly struck out, and a jade-green flame spat out like a volcano!

This swift attack by Xiao Yan also caused Protector Xuan’s expression to change drastically. His body swiftly withdrew, but with his seriously wounded condition, his strength was already far inferior to what it was before. Hence, a thread of flame caught up to him even though he had dodged quickly. The hot temperature caused him to emit a miserable screech.

The black fog around Protector Xuan’s body was swiftly reduced while the flame burned. The flame had dispersed by the time Protector Xuan had withdrawn by a hundred meters. He was incomparably miserable at this moment...

Protector Xuan was panting as he stopped his body. The eyes he shot at Xiao Yan could no longer be described as vicious. Just when he was about to turn into a violent range, a human figure suddenly appeared beside him. His gaze swept across it and he immediately cried out furiously, “Han Feng, join hands with me and kill this little...”

Chi!

Protector Xuan’s words had yet to reach the end when he suddenly stiffened. He slowly lowered his head with much difficulty only to see a hand that was wrapped in Dou Qi penetrating his chest...

“The current you is merely trash even if you managed to survive. Coincidentally, those Spirit Envoys had all been killed off by Xiao Yan. No one will report to the ‘Hall of Souls.’ Hence, you should give your soul to me. I will help you take revenge...

Han Feng slowly withdrew his hand. He looked at the swiftly disappearing life force within Protector Xuan’s eyes. A cruel smile was lifted on his face as he muttered to himself.

Chapter 918: Exchanging Blows Again

The sudden change that occurred in the sky caused everyone to be stunned. Numerous eyes stared at Han Feng's hand as he slowly withdrew it from Protector Tie's body. Their hearts involuntarily chilled when they saw the savage smile on his face. This fellow... his heart was really vicious. He was actually able to act against his companion without any hesitation.

This vicious tactics of Han Feng shocked quite a number of people. The dislike of him within many people's hearts also became greater. This included Old Ying Shan. Although he was not considered a good person, he would still not do something as shameless as attack his companions. Moreover, if Han Feng was able to attack Protector Xuan without any scruple, it was likely that Han Feng could decide to attack Old Ying Shan without feeling the slightest burden.

Han Feng was unaware of the thoughts within everyone's heart. At this moment, Protector Xuan's spirit gradually became illusionary after having lost his body because of Han Feng's unexpected murderous act.

Han Feng indifferently looked at this spirit that had become illusionary and the corner of his mouth was lifted into a savage greedy smile. He widened his mouth and black fog agglomerated within his mouth. It immediately transformed into a strange black spiral. The suction force surged as he swallowed Protector Xuan's spirit...

Han Feng's body immediately trembled after Protector Xuan's spirit entered his body. A wildly violent yet majestic aura swept from his body like a tornado. The surrounding air fled under the pressure of such an aura.

A black fog that was so dense that it could almost cover one's mind surged out of Han Feng's body. While his aura surged, Han Feng's size also clearly expanded by two circles. There were even some bubbles that were formed by energy and began to revoltingly pulse on his skin. Clearly, Han Feng had obtained an extremely great Spiritual Strength after swallowing Protector Xuan's spirit but the power of this strength was something that

he had difficulty controlling. It was due to this lack of control did these energy bubbles form...

Han Fen never hesitated when he attacked and killed Protector Xuan, nor did he hesitate when he swallowed of his spirit. His actions were extremely smooth and natural. Hence, by the time everyone recovered, they sensed the majestic aura that surged out of Han Feng's body...

The strength of this aura was something that even the Little Fairy Doctor was inferior to. According to her estimation, the strength of the current Han Feng should have already reached the peak of a five star Dou Zong. He was one level higher when compared to the Little Fairy Doctor.

Xiao Yan's brows knit as he sensed the spreading aura from Han Feng's body. This kind of disgusting scene of swallowing a soul was not something that he had seen for the first time. It seemed that most of the people from the 'Hall of Souls' knew this skill, a skill that caused one to feel incomparably disgusted. Relying on swallowing the spirit of a companion to strengthen one's own strength might result in quite a severe sequelae in the future, but they would at least be able to obtain a temporary strength for a certain amount of time.

"I will deal with him..." The grayish-purple eyes of the Little Fairy Doctor stared at Han Feng. She felt his rising aura and softly spoke.

"Together... help me buy some time." Xiao Yan gently exhaled as he replied in a deep voice.

"Ah, although there might be some difficulty defeating him in his current condition, I am absolutely confident that I can delay him." The Little Fairy Doctor smiled sweetly and nodded.

"Try you best not to undo the seal of the 'Woeful Poison Body'..." Xiao Yan glanced at the moving smile on the Little Fairy Doctor before sighing softly.

The Little Fairy Doctor was slightly startled as she softly replied, "I'll try my best. However, the opponent we face this time is not weak. It will be quite troublesome to deal with them if I don't undo the seal."

Xiao Yan bitterly laughed upon hearing her reply. He said, “The reason I asked you to follow beside me was to help you control the ‘Woeful Poison Body.’ Instead, the time until your ‘Woeful Poison Body’ erupts is growing closer... if any sudden situation were to occur and something happened to you, how do you expect me to have a peace of mind?”

The Little Fairy Doctor gently smiled. She said, “Although this period of time is filled with danger, I have been far happier than when I was alone in the Chu Yun Empire. Hence, if anything were to happen, it is because I have a terrible fate. It has nothing to do with you...”

“Do you think that I will think this way?” Xiao Yan helplessly shook his head as he replied.

The Little Fairy Doctor covered her small mouth, and her long eyelashes came together. She blinked as she laughed in spite of herself and said, “It seems that you won’t...”

“Is your flirting over? If it is, you can all prepare to die.” A cold voice that contained an incomparable killing intent suddenly sounded, interrupting the conversation between Xiao Yan and the Little Fairy Doctor. Their eyes slide to Han Feng, who was suspended in the sky covered in a black fog...

At this moment, it seemed that Han Feng had already absorbed Protector Xuan’s Spiritual Strength. This caused his strength to leap forward for a short period of time. As he sensed the powerful energy flowing within his body, the slight fear he felt for the Little Fairy Doctor completely vanished. A dense killing intent that was difficult to extinguish replaced it.

Han Feng was suspended in the sky. Under the cover of the surrounding black fog that traveled in all directions, he appeared just like a demon that had climbed from hell, filled with evil and a dark, cold aura...

The Little Fairy Doctor took a couple of steps as she walked through the empty air. Waves of majestic gray-colored Dou Qi poured out of her body like floodwater after she slowly took a couple of steps forward. Her Dou Qi then lingered around her body. Traces of a stench vaguely appeared. The extremely strong corrosive properties contained within the Dou Qi caused even the air to transmit waves of unusual acidity.

Xiao Yan gently exhaled as he looked at the Little Fairy Doctor, who had stepped forward. His eyes revealed his indifference as he glanced at Han Feng. After which, Xiao Yan slowly stepped back. The Green Lotus Core Flame, Fallen Heart Flame, and even the Bone Chilling Flame... quietly appeared as he stepped back...

“Hmph!”

Han Feng understood what Xiao Yan was planning to do after seeing the three ‘Heavenly Flames’ around him. He immediately let out a cold snort. The snort was wrapped by powerful Dou Qi and swiftly spread out. The air fluctuated slightly wherever it passed.

A cold indifference flashed across the Little Fairy Doctor’s grayish-purples eyes. She waved her delicate hand, and the surging gray-colored Dou Qi lingering around her moved with a whistle, forming an enormous Dou Qi light curtain appeared in front of her.

The sonic wave continued on before finally colliding against the Dou Qi light curtain with a bang, causing ripples to rise on the surface.

“Chi!”

The sonic wave suddenly smashed into the light curtain. However, it did not shatter the light curtain. This was merely a probing attack by Han Feng. He clenched his hand one again, and the black fog around him swiftly gathered, transforming into an enormous hundred-foot-tall longsword. Sharp miserable screeches were repeatedly transmitted from the longsword. A faint spiritual finger emanated from all over the sword’s body.

“Go.”

Han Feng’s gaze was filled with a stern killing intent. He flicked his finger and a cold cry was transmitted from his mouth. The enormous fog longsword trembled before gradually turning illusionary...

A solemnness flashed in the Little Fairy Doctor’s eyes as she watched the unusual longsword. She could clearly sense just what kind of frightening energy was contained in the black sword. Dou Qi and Spiritual Strength

mixed with one another. The strength that was formed from their mixture was far stronger than ordinary Dou Qi.

The Little Fairy Doctor inhaled a deep breath. Her long hands suddenly formed seals. Immediately, waves of deep-grayish Dou Qi began to spurt from her body like a fountain.

“Sky Corrosive Rain!”

The Dou Qi flew into the sky and swiftly agglomerated into a gray-colored cloud layer. Soon deep-gray colored rain scattered down from above in all directions. This gray-colored liquid body might appear to be without any energy, but a sharp-eyed person would be able to notice an extremely faint black scar appear in the air where the rain droplet fell...

These rain droplets that contained a lethal poison did not land on the ground. When they had descended a certain distance, they would suddenly scatter before transforming into a poison gas that rose and reentered the gray cloud. After which, they once again transformed into a raindrop and scattered down. This cycle repeated endlessly...

Xi! Xi!

The densely packed deep-gray raindrops fell from the sky as a black figure broke through the air and appeared in the rain. Its sharp sword aura shot toward the Little Fairy Doctor.

However, the moment the enormous black-colored longsword revealed itself, the countless raindrops seemed to be pulled by a suction force as they shot toward it from all directions. The black fog on the longsword's surface emitted waves of 'Chi Chi' sounds as it gradually became fainter. Its penetrating speed had also become much slowly, appearing as though it had been inserted into an extremely deep quagmire.

Han Feng in the distance frowned when he saw that the black fog longsword appeared to have difficulty progressing even an inch within the rain. The Little Fairy Doctor's tactics were strange. This kind of potent poison strength could even corrode Dou Qi...

“It might have been difficult for me to defeat you in the past. Now,

however...”

“Spiritual Chant!”

A cold smile surfaced on Han Feng’s face. His hand suddenly changed and an extremely powerful Spiritual Strength surged from between his brows!

Hum!

The black fog longsword trembled intensely while the Spiritual Strength flowed. Immediately, a strange sonic wave spread out from within it...

The Little Fairy Doctor’s body trembled slightly as the sonic wave entered her ear. The waves of piercing pain that were transmitted from within her spirit caused her expression to change. This black fog longsword was able to attack one’s spirit?

An emptiness appeared within the Little Fairy Doctor’s grayish-purple eyes as her spirit was damaged. The black fog longsword grabbed this opening and transformed into black-colored lightning that broke through the rain’s restriction. It carried a sharp force as it viciously shot toward the Little Fairy Doctor’s vital point, her throat.

The sharp wind produced a tiny blood trace on the Little Fairy Doctor’s long snow-white neck. However, at this instant, the emptiness within the Little Fairy Doctor’s eyes suddenly disappeared. Her originally grayish-purple eyes were instantly transformed into different colored eyes that were pure-purple and pure-gray respectively...

At this moment, the seal of the ‘Woeful Poison Body’ was once again activated...

Chapter 919: Fire Lotus, Kill!

The space in front of the Little Fairy Doctor had strangely become much more distorted with the transformation of her eyes. The speed of the black-colored longsword, that seemed to have shot over like lightning, slowed again when it entered the distorted space!

“Sky Sinister Poison Hand!”

A voice that was void of any emotion was softly spat out from the Little Fairy Doctor’s mouth. Immediately, a grayish-purple majestic Dou Qi surged out of her body. It instantly formed two enormous Dou Qi hands. These Dou Qi hands were extended and immediately grabbed the black fog longsword.

The enormous black fog sword had difficulty penetrating further after facing such resistance. However, the sharp, dark, cold sword aura at its tip caused the Little Fairy Doctor’s skin to emit waves of piercing pain. After having swallowed Protector Xuan’s spirit, Han Feng’s strength was greater than hers. It was naturally no longer as relaxing as it was in the past to block him. After all, each star level within the Dou Zong class was an enormous gap. It was quite difficult to leap across it.

The grayish-purple Dou Qi hands and the black fog longsword descended into a stalemate. A moment later, a cold glint flickered through the Little Fairy Doctor’s eyes. The seal on her hand suddenly changed and a soft cry was spat from her mouth!

The cry had just sounded when the large Dou Qi hands expanded. Immediately, one of them grabbed the tip of the sword while the other grabbed its hilt. The grayish-purple Dou Qi, which was extremely corrosive, swiftly surrounded the sword. After which, the sword suddenly snapped.

“Crack!”

A clear sound resounded over the sky. One could see that the enormous black fog longsword had been broken into two by the Little Fairy Doctor. The Dou Qi and Spiritual Strength contained within it was swiftly

corroded by the grayish-purple Dou Qi...

“Hmph!”

Han Feng’s body also shook when the black fog longsword was brutally destroyed by the Little Fairy Doctor. His throat emitted a faint voice as he laughed in a dark manner, “One really could not tell that a woman like you would possess such powerful tactics. However, despite having destroyed my spirit sword, it is likely that the spirit glow on it has given you a hard time, right?:”

The Little Fairy Doctor’s face was cold and indifferent. She ignored Han Feng’s words. Her delicate hands that were forming a seal trembled gently a couple of times. The unusual spirit sword glow had mostly ignored her Dou Qi defenses, and had instead attacked her spirit. Had she not been an elite Dou Zong and had not possessed great Spiritual Strength, it was likely that she would have suffered a serious injury this time around.

Dou Qi slowly rotated on the Little Fairy Doctor’s hand. The piercing pain and numbness gradually paled. Her eyes glanced at Xiao Yan, who was putting all his attention on merging the fire lotus. Finally, she sighed in relief after sensing that the fire lotus within Xiao Yan’s hand was agglomerating into an embryonic form.

At this moment, Han Feng had similarly sensed the frightening energy ripple spreading from Xiao Yan’s hands. His expression changed slightly. With a slight movement of his body, he instantly disappeared from where he had been before. He appeared again not too far away from Xiao Yan. However, before he could advance again, a graceful figure appeared in front of him like maggots in the tarsal bones. She swung her sharp grayish-purple fingernails. They gently cut through the sky as they pierced toward his chest.

Han Feng’s heart became furious after his body was blocked. His footstep gently stepped aside, dodging the Little Fairy Doctor’s attack. Instantly, his figure flashed and once again rushed toward Xiao Yan without giving up. However, he had only taken a couple of steps when the Little Fairy Doctor once again appeared in front of him. This continued a

couple of times, causing Han Feng's face to be filled with a greenish color. He let out a cold cry and powerful Dou Qi surged out, traveling in all directions. The wind from his fist sounded like thunder strikes as it formed a dark, cold hurricane that swept toward the Little Fairy Doctor.

The Little Fairy Doctor did not dare slight Han Feng's furious attack. The Dou Qi within her body was circulated to its maximum speed. Undoing the seal of the 'Woeful Poison Body' had also caused the poison within her Dou Qi to become even more potent. This poison was what Han Feng was most afraid of. Hence, he had not dared to attempt anything risky during these exchanges despite having gained the upper hand.

Two blurry figures crossed each other in a lightning-like manner in the sky. An ordinary expert could not even see the figures of these two. Only those with sharp eyes could use the help of the ripples being created to lock onto the two figures.

Su Qian and Old Ying Shan faced each other from a distance not far below the battleground of the Little Fairy Doctor and Han Feng. They did not use their full strength in their occasional exchanges because Old Ying Shan already had a retreating notion within his heart. He knew that the so called union today was most likely going to fail. Moreover, Xiao Yan's group clearly had a grudge that was difficult to resolve with Han Feng. All that he was after, on the other hand, was the Bodhisattva Body Transformation Saliva. He did not wish to participate in all the problematic matters between the others. Hence, he did not reveal any ability when fighting with Su Qian. Su Qian understood this point. In any case, his aim was to delay Old Ying Shan and prevent him from intervening in the battle above. Since Old Ying Shan was happy to delay time, Su Qian would naturally not object...

If Han Feng were to know that the helper he had spent great effort to invite was playing such a trick at this critical time, it was likely that he would be so furious that his Dou Qi would not even be able to flow properly.

The open ground was completely silent. At this moment, the experts invited by both sides did not fight because they knew that the true

battleground was above... They were only here for support and not actual use. Although the many experts present would be able to pose some threat to a Dou Zong if they were to join hands, they were not foolish enough to do something that required them to risk their lives and offend an elite Dou Zong for no reason.

Today's matter was a grudge between Xiao Gate and the Demon Flame Valley, Xiao Yan and Han Feng. These experts did not wish to get involved with this matter... after all, if they were to stand on the wrong side, they would end up suffering in the future. Hence, remaining neutral at this moment and not helping either side was the most appropriate choice.

Quite a number of people quietly wiped off some cold perspiration as they watched the shocking momentum of the battle in the sky. The fight between experts of the Dou Zong class was indeed dazzling. This kind of majestic strength where one could shake space with the raise of one's hand was the level that a countless number of people pursued.

“Bang!”

An intense energy explosion resounded through the sky with a ‘bang.’ Enormous Dou Qi fireworks accompanied the powerful ripple-like hurricane as it spread out. The two crossing figures also quickly withdrew with heavy footsteps.

The Little Fairy Doctor's feet ruthlessly stomped on empty air. Each time her foot landed, the air would emit some waves. This continued for over a dozen steps before the Little Fairy Doctor finally stabilized her body. She gently inhaled and exhaled a couple of times, wiped off a thread of blood on the corner of her mouth, and raised her head. Her gaze was icy-cold as she glared at Han Feng on the opposite side with his sleeves shattered.

Compared to the Little Fairy Doctor, Han Feng's appearance was a little miserable. On the whole, however, his injuries were much lighter than the Little Fairy Doctor's wounds after the earlier stunning battle. His strength had already exceeded the Little Fairy Doctor after having swallowed Protector Xuan's spirit.

The Little Fairy Doctor's breathing slowly calmed. A cold smile gradually

surfaced on her face. She could sense an unusually wild and violent, frighteningly hot energy agglomerating not far behind her...

Shifting her eyes slightly, she could see that Xiao Yan was flapping his bone wings to remain suspended in the air not far behind her. A three colored fire lotus slowly rotated above his palm. The space surrounding it formed threads of spatial cracks as this little thing rotated...

Xiao Yan nodded to the Little Fairy Doctor after seeing her catching her eyes. His mouth gently moved.

The Little Fairy Doctor's eyes blinked as she absorbed the sound transmitted from Xiao Yan to her ear. She immediately nodded without anyone noticing.

“Dammit!”

Han Feng had also sensed when the fire lotus in Xiao Yan's hand was formed. His expression instantly became much uglier as his heart violently cursed.

Cursing was one thing, but Han Feng's actions were not the least bit slow. He clearly understood just how frightening this fire lotus, merged from three kinds of 'Heavenly Flames,' was. He did not dare to slight it. Dark-black fog surged out of his body in all directions. In merely a short moment, it formed a black cloud that covered the sky. The thick, black fog emitted a chillness that caused one to feel extremely pressured.

The black fog covered the sky. It emitted a tidal-wave-like cold feeling. Waves swept continuously as though there was no end to it. This black fog sea was formed from all of the Dou Qi within Han Feng's body, and possessed an extraordinary might...

A cold smile flowed over Xiao Yan's face as he watched the black fog that covered the sky. He gently waved his sleeves and the three color fire lotus left his palm. With a flick of his finger, it swiftly shot toward the black fog...

The Little Fairy Doctor's eyes stared intently at the fire lotus that shot over. She suddenly bit the tip of her tongue when it passed by her head. A

mouthful of fresh blood, that contained a hint of purple, was spat out before it adhered to a part of the fire lotus...

“Hurry and withdraw!”

Xiao Li's heart was shocked when he saw the fire lotus in Xiao Yan's hand fly out. He immediately pulled at Zi Yan beside him and hurriedly withdrew... he knew just how terrifying the strength of the fire lotus was.

Su Mei and the others were startled upon hearing Xiao Li's cry. They did not hesitate as all of them hurriedly withdrew out of the valley like rabbits. Some of the experts and faction leaders in the open ground also followed. However, some of the more cautious people hesitated and refused to follow, afraid they might fall for a trap...

Xiao Li's group had just rushed out of the valley when the three colored fire lotus in the sky, carrying a gorgeous fire tail, charged into the cold fog that permeated the sky...

“Bang!”

The silence continued for a moment after the fire lotus rushed into the black fog region. After which, a soul-stirring explosion suddenly resounded from the black fog. A frightening fire wave, a thousand feet tall, suddenly spread out of the black fog.

The entire valley began to shake from the spreading remnant fire wave. Enormous crack lines began to climb out like spiderwebs as huge rocks fell with loud bangs. The entire valley that had built from Black Metal Rock suddenly collapsed.

Upon seeing this scene, the expressions of the many experts who had not left earlier instantly turned white...

Chapter 920: The Final Victor

The enormous fire wave swept out in all directions from the black fog sea. The remnant waves created by the fire wave caused the trees within a thousand meters of the valley to emit a 'puff' sound as they turned to ashes...

If one were to look down on the scene from above, one would be able to see a lush green color within a thousand meter radius disappear almost instantly, with the Demon Flame Valley as its center. Even the forest more than a thousand meters away had turned to a withering yellow. Clearly, the high temperature contained within the fire wave had vaporized all the moisture within this region.

The might of the fire lotus was this frightening!

At this moment, the Demon Flame Valley was in complete chaos. The enormous rocks that rolled down from the wall caused the people from the Demon Flame Valley, who did not have time to prepare themselves, to suffer great losses. It was still alright for some agile experts. They were still able to dodge this great calamity with their speed. However, those who were slow were buried in an enormous rock ruin.

The experts in the open ground, who were late to leave, only managed to flee from the valley after some graceful dodging. Due to the frightening wave from the enormous fire in the sky, no one dared to fly. They were afraid of being struck by the wave. Their ending would likely be quite miserable if that happened.

Only after everyone fled the Demon Flame Valley in a miserable manner did they stop running, but they had all been shaken up pretty badly. They stood on a slope and looked at the many mountain peaks around them that had suddenly become empty. All of them involuntarily inhaled a cool breath. The forest of this mountain range had been destroyed by Xiao Yan's fire lotus...

Everyone stood outside of the valley in a hushed manner. The atmosphere was very quiet. There was a look of sedation within the eyes

of quite a number of people. It was likely that even an ordinary elite Dou Zong would have difficulty creating such frightening destruction. It was unexpected that it all came from Xiao Yan's hands... only at this moment did the doubt regarding the rumor of Xiao Yan being able to contend with an elite Dou Zong quietly disappear.

Within the crowd, Su Mei, Wu Tie, Old Ying Gu, and the other helpers that Xiao Li had summoned exchanged looks with each other. They could see a shock that was difficult to hide in the eyes of the other party. This was not the first time that they had seen Xiao Yan's fire lotus Dou Technique. When they had followed him to the Jia Ma Empire back then, Xiao Yan had displayed it once against the Misty Cloud Sect. However, the strength then was much weaker compared now. Clearly, the might of this fire lotus Dou Technique had grown extremely quickly following the increase of Xiao Yan's level.

"The might of this skill is this frightening with a mere six star Dou Huang strength... when he reaches the Dou Zong class, it is likely that it will be difficult for him to find an opponent within the Dou Zong class... the growth potential of this person is really too frightening. One should not be enemies with him..."

This thought appeared and remained in the hearts of Su Mei's group at this moment. They had a type of friendship with Xiao Yan, and they also knew a little about him. This young person had made quite a number of enemies during these years. Although many of these opponents were way stronger than him, he was still able to persist until the end. Moreover, the only person who grew stronger during the battle was him alone...

Even Han Feng, who was once regarded as the 'Pill Emperor' of the 'Black-Corner Region,' had declined during such a long battle. Today, he might even completely perish in this place. Although everyone knew that Han Feng was an elite Dou Zong, their hearts gradually leaned in favor of Xiao Yan after experiencing the terror of the fire lotus firsthand.

"This fellow's fire lotus is really stronger..."

Xiao Li looked around. He saw the thousand meters of scarlet ground

and involuntarily shook his head. He sighed and laughed. The shock and fear of the experts and leaders of factions from the 'Black-Corner Region' around him were all captured in his eyes. A torrent-like pride quietly surged within his heart. Being able to frighten the rebellious experts from the 'Black-Corner Region' until they were docile was definitely not what an ordinary expert could achieve. Yet, Xiao Yan, his third brother, had done it...

A warm, prideful smile surfaced within Xiao Li's eyes as he raised his head and looked at the skinny back in the distant sky. He had basically seen Xiao Yan grow one step at a time through these years.

The young man back then had endured ridicule as he carried humiliation and the reputation of being a useless person. With his dedication and stubbornness, the young man left his home by himself and roamed the empire. Xiao Li remembered a distant memory of sudden understanding. He finally understood why his father placed hope in his third brother, who everyone had treated as a joke, when he saw the young man carrying an enormous heavy ruler at the edge of the desert, enduring his lonely training.

Time flowed by, and the young man had gradually lost his sentimentalism during his training. He appeared to have undergone a transformation. He and his ruler fought with a mighty being, the Misty Cloud Sect, in front of a countless number of stunned gazes in the Jia Ma Empire...

At that time, many people might have ridiculed the ignorance of trying to do the impossible. However, a couple of years later, when a young figure stood at the Misty Cloud Mountain and used a calm voice to determine the fate of the Misty Cloud Sect, finally someone recalled the scene from back then. On top of letting out a shock of exclamation, they had to learn how to exhale and inhale again. It was indeed the case of not bullying a young man for being poor...

TL: not bullying a young man for being poor – meaning that a young person has limitless potential even if he is currently in a bad state

Time was just like water and the tender youth had transformed into a mature, young man within a couple of years. These years, he had left behind memories as well as a reputation everywhere he had walked.

At this moment, those people who were acquainted with him would involuntarily feel stunned when recalling this scene. Who would have expected a couple of years ago, that this young man, who was looked down upon and discriminated within the clan, would be able to create such a reputation?

“Father... your eyesight is really very good... third brother might well become the most outstanding person in our clan’s history. He might even be able to surpass the so-called Xiao clan’s ancestors, who might not exist that you mentioned back then...”

Xiao Li’s thoughts slowly calmed down as he raised his head, looked at the skinny back in the sky and muttered softly.

The black fog scattered and drifted in the sky. After the frightening eruption of the fire lotus, the originally enormous black fog region had been completely destroyed. The permeating black fog was scattering at a rate visible to the naked eye.

Xiao Yan’s eyes were icy-cold as he watched the swiftly scattering black fog. He took out a couple of medicinal pills from his ring and stuffed them into his mouth. Immediately, a faint redness surfaced on his pale-white face. Using the three colored fire lotus exhausted a ton of Dou Qi. However, it was fortunate that Xiao Yan’s strength was already mighty. Hence, the sequelae of gradually descending into unconsciousness the moment the fire lotus left his hand did not happen anymore.

The Little Fairy Doctor stood facing the wind beside Xiao Yan. The demonic charm contained in her grayish-purple eyes firmly stared at a certain spot in the black fog. A dense poison fog quietly churned on her hand as she prepared to attack.

The black fog gradually scattered under the watchful eyes of the two people, revealing an extremely miserable figure within...

At this moment, Han Feng’s clothes were in tatters. His body did not

even have a patch of skin that looked normal. Blood bubbles surfaced in a dense manner and his hair had been completely incinerated. His face and chest were filled with blood traces. If one were to look carefully, half of this fellow's hands had been blasted apart. Fresh blood dripped from them.

Looking at this scene, it was obvious that despite having preserved his life, Han Feng's injuries were extremely frightening. It seemed as though he would remain a cripple even if he healed...

Everyone on the ground looked at Han Feng's appearance and involuntarily wiped off their cold sweat. Their hearts held some lingering fear for the terrifying destructive strength of the fire lotus.

Old Ying Shan, who had already ceased fighting, looked at Han Feng's miserable manner. A fear also surfaced on his old face. He knew that if it had been him instead of Han Feng, it was likely that his fate would have been even worse than Han Feng's appearance now.

"Looks like there is no hope for the Bodhisattva Body Transformation Saliva... this little fellow is too troublesome to deal with... your carefulness is not without reason." Old Ying Shan sighed within his heart. He turned his head and spoke with a bitter smile to Mo Tian Xing by the side.

Hearing this, Mo Tian Xing's face revealed a cold smile. He faintly said, "According to what I know, this fire lotus is still not the strongest trump card of his. This three colored fire lotus's strength might be great, but it is impossible to cause someone at Old Ground Demon Ghost level to be seriously injured..."

Old Ying Shan's eyes immediately shrank when he heard Mo Tian Xing's words. A moment later, he quietly nodded. The greed in his heart for the Bodhisattva Body Transformation Saliva finally paled. A treasure might be good, but that was only the case if one had the life to enjoy it.

Xiao Yan was naturally unaware that Mo Tian Xing's words had dissuaded Old Ying Shan of continuing to pester him. At this moment, the killing intent within his dark-black eyes immediately surged upon seeing Han Feng revealing himself. However, before he could act, the Little Fairy

Doctor by his side rushed forward in a lightning-like manner. Within an instant, she appeared in front of Han Feng. Her eyebrows contained an evilness as a cold and indifferent cry was suddenly emitted from her small mouth, "Blood Corrosion!"

Han Feng's body stiffened when the cry sounded. Immediately, a strange blood-red color surfaced on his body, turning him into something like a blood person.

"You... you used poison?"

The boiling feeling that was emitted from the blood within his body caused Han Feng's face to instantly turn pale. His eyes viciously glared at the Little Fairy Doctor as he hissed.

The Little Fairy Doctor's gaze coldly glanced at Han Feng. She extended her finger and immediately pressed it heavily on the latter's head. A strange snort was emitted from her mouth.

"Bang!"

Han Feng's eyes suddenly widened as this sound landed in his ears. His eyes appeared to be about to pop out. Then, he heard a muffled sound as his skin burst apart. Fresh blood transformed into a blood fog that scattered into the sky.

The sudden blood fireworks caused everyone to feel stunned. They immediately saw Han Feng's broken body fall head first from the sky. Finally, it landed heavily on a rock. A 'snap' sound appeared and even his bones split apart at this moment...

The world had become completely silent as everyone stared at the pile of rotten flesh. No one expected that Han Feng, who had grand plans just an hour ago, had at this moment... fallen to such an end.

While everyone was hissing, none of them sensed a thread of Spiritual Strength quietly spring out from the pile of bloody meat. It entered the ground and swiftly fled.

"Bang!"

Just when the thread of Spiritual Strength was about to flee, a black figure suddenly fell from the sky. A fist violently smashed into the ground and was withdrawn from it. A Spiritual Strength was struggling with all its might in his hand. Han Feng's savage and vicious face faintly surfaced in it.

“Senior... if you were to leave now, how would you be worthy of the big gift that I have given you?”

Xiao Yan smiled slightly as he looked at the Spiritual Strength in his hand. However, his smile contained a blade-like killing intent.

Chapter 921: Treasure Hunting

The almost invisible Spiritual Strength struggled with all its might within Xiao Yan's hand, but it was ultimately unable to escape its restraints. Furious and vicious roars were faintly emitted while it struggled.

Xiao Yan's eyes glanced coldly and indifferently at this spirit. Han Feng was really a decisive person. He was actually willing to abandon most of his Spiritual Strength and use only a trace to escape. This small thread of Spiritual Strength was something that even an ordinary elite Dou Zong would have difficulty sensing. If Xiao Yan had not been present, it was likely that this fellow would have once again fled.

In front of Xiao Yan, who possessed an exceptionally sharp Spiritual Perception, this little trick of Han Feng was not something that could be hidden. This thread of Spiritual Strength had not only failed to hide its figure by fleeing underground, but had instead expose itself to Xiao Yan.

A cluster of jade-green flames rose on his hand, wrapping around the Spiritual Strength. Xiao Yan then took out a jade bottle and threw the Spiritual Strength in. He wiped his hand and a faint fire layer made of jade-green flame was formed at the mouth of the bottle.

"I will entertain you properly once this is over, Senior..." The corner of Xiao Yan's mouth was lifted into a cold smile. With a flip of his hand, he returned the jade bottle to his Storage Ring.

Xiao Yan only raised his head after securing the Spiritual Strength. His eyes looked all around him, and he saw how the Demon Flame Valley had been turned to ruins. His calm eyes slowly took in the open ground.

The area immediately became quiet when they saw Xiao Yan's sweeping gaze. The experts and leaders from the 'Black-Corner Region,' who had been invited by Han Feng, felt their hearts leap. Their gazes drifted uncertainly and were afraid to meet Xiao Yan's eyes. They had witnessed this great battle today. There had been two, or three if one included the so-called fierce spirit, elite Dou Zongs on their side. However... these three

elite Dou Zongs had all perished by Xiao Yan's hand...

"It is fortunate that I did not indicate that I wanted to follow Han Feng. Otherwise..." Quite a number of people quietly wiped off cold sweat as they rejoiced in their hearts.

Xiao Yan's gaze did not pause for a long time on these people. After looking once around, it paused on Old Ying Shan.

Old Ying Shan's heart tightened a little after having sensed Xiao Yan's land on him. However, his face did not reveal anything. Powerful Dou Qi also quietly circulated within his body as he prepared himself to fight at any moment.

"Old mister Ying Shan. I can let today's bygones be bygones. However, I hope that this doesn't happen a second time. Otherwise..." A cold glint flashed within Xiao Yan's eyes as he spoke with a deep voice.

Old Ying Shan's expression changed a little upon hearing the hidden threat within Xiao Yan's words. However, his eyes shrank before he could reply. He saw Su Qian and the Little Fairy Doctor quietly appear, one in front and one behind him. Their auras faintly locked onto him.

With Old Ying Shan's strength, just dealing with First Elder Su Qian alone would leave him at a stalemate. If the stronger Little Fairy Doctor joined, he would be left with not even the slightest chance of victory.

Old Ying Shan's eyes flickered, and his expression changed abruptly once again because he had realized that Mo Tian Xing had also shifted a couple of steps away without leaving a trace, coincidentally sealing off his final path of retreat.

"This old fellow is really shameless..."

Being locked onto by three elite Dou Zongs, even Old Ying Shan did not dare to have any unusual thoughts within his heart. A somewhat stiff smile was forced onto his old face as he said to Xiao Yan, "The old me has underestimated little friend. The old me has also been instigated by Han Feng today. Please do not blame me."

The expressions of the many experts present were interesting when they

saw that Xiao Yan had made an elite Dou Zong speak such soft words. The gazes that landed on Xiao Yan revealed an even denser respect without their owners realizing it.

Xiao Yan smiled when he saw Old Ying Shan's manner. After a big battle, both the Little Fairy Doctor's condition and his were quite weary. Their fighting strength had been greatly reduced. If he really forced Old Ying Shan to go all out and fight, an unexpected change might occur, especially with a neutral Mo Tian Xing present. Although this fellow appeared to be standing on their side now, one could not guarantee that he would control himself and not intervene should their fight with Old Ying Shan end up with both of them seriously injured... hence, it was naturally the best if they could frighten off Old Ying Shan.

"Is Old Ying Shan willing to part with the Bodhisattva Body Transformation Saliva?" Xiao Yan glanced at Mo Tian Xing and laughed faintly.

Old Ying Shan involuntarily let out a bitter laugh when he heard this. He shook his head and said, "Such a unique treasure deserves to be owned by someone with ability. Since little friend has such power, the old me will naturally cease meddling... however, some people might be having the sweet dream of obtaining both the items and wealth." Old Ying Shan looked at Mo Tian Xing with a cold smile when he spoke until this point.

Mo Tian Xing did not get angry despite being implicitly mocked by Old Ying Shan. He smiled and said, "Old fellow, you should stop trying to find trouble for me. The old me is extremely reassured that the Bodhisattva Body Transformation Saliva is in little friend Xiao Yan's hand."

Not only did Old Ying Shan scoff at these words, but Xiao Yan also involuntarily moved the corner of his mouth. This old fellow really had quite the thick face.

"Ke ke, little friend Xiao Yan. The old me has acted according to our agreement and did not intervene to help Han Feng. May I know..." Mo Tian Xing ignored the thoughts within the hearts of those around him. He changed the topic and smiled as he spoke to Xiao Yan.

Xiao Yan's eyes landed on the Little Fairy Doctor when he heard this. He nodded slightly, and she waved her hand. A jade bottle was tossed to Mo Tian Xing.

Mo Tian Xing extended his hand and a wind surged out of it after he saw the item tossed over by the Little Fairy Doctor. He immediately grabbed the jade bottle from the air and wrapped various layers of Dou Qi around its surface. Only then did he carefully open the bottle cap and to reveal grayish-brown medicinal powder within.

One could not blame Mo Tian Xing for being this careful. He knew a little about the Little Fairy Doctor. He knew that her poison skill was deep and unpredictable. If he was careless, it was likely that he would be tricked by her. The scene of Han Feng's body exploding earlier was clearly captured in his eyes. Though part of the reason Han Feng exploded was because he had been seriously injured, but potent poison should never be underestimated.

"Mix the medicinal powder within boiling water. Allow your son to soak within it for one month. The poison will be completely gone by then." The Little Fairy Doctor coldly explained after glancing at Mo Tian Xing, who had carefully received the jade bottle.

"Ke ke, thank you."

Mo Tian Xing sighed in relief after hearing this. He eventually cupped his hands to the Little Fairy Doctor as he replied.

The Little Fairy Doctor ignored this thanks by him. From the way she saw it, this person was too cunning and too much of a hypocrite. He was really detestable.

Xiao Yan looked all around him after dismissing Mo Tian Xing. He looked over the Demon Flame Valley, that had turned to ruins, and a cold smile surfaced on his face. This big battle would really destroy the Demon Flame Valley's reputation. Now that their headquarters was destroyed, this Demon Flame Valley would no longer have the strength to survive in the 'Black-Corner Region.' Xiao Gate would be around to deal with those who had escaped. In the future, these people would have difficulty traveling

even an inch in the 'Black-Corner Region.'

Xiao Yan's body moved gently and he appeared beside Xiao Li's group. The many experts around hurriedly cupped their hands together when they saw this. Waves of congratulatory laughs repeatedly sounded.

Xiao Yan also smiled in response to these people. After which, his gaze turned to Xiao Li, who smiled and said, "Relax, I have already arranged for some people to remain outside the Demon Flame Valley. The people from the Demon Flame Valley who escaped will not be able to run very far..."

Xiao Yan nodded slightly. In the 'Black-Corner Region,' kindness was something that could be thrown into a smelly drain. Their grudge with the Demon Flame Valley was something that could not be resolved. Some hidden danger must be removed in order to ensure the safety of the students heading out to train.

While Xiao Yan was chatting with Xiao Li, Xiao Li had managed to instruct the members of Xiao Gate to entertain Su Mei and the others. Those experts and factions who had quite a good relationship with the Demon Flame Valley and Han Feng earlier, quietly left with a new awareness of the situation. They all knew that the Demon Flame Valley would no longer exist in the future. Of course, their hearts did not have any thoughts of taking revenge. Han Feng and the experts from the Demon Flame Valley had mostly died. Who would go and offend Xiao Gate and the Jia Nan Academy for no reason?

After dispatching some members, Xiao Li began to give the order to search the ruins of the Demon Flame Valley. This Demon Flame Valley was an ancient faction. Their accumulation over the many years should result in quite a deep foundation. Various Qi Methods, Dou Techniques, weapons, and the many unique spiritual medicines were things that caused one's eyes to turn red. Now that they had eliminated the Demon Flame Valley, the many things that they had owned would naturally need to be removed. These things were undoubtedly a windfall to Xiao Gate.

Although Xiao Yan and the others had this thought, they were unable to find even a trace of the treasure warehouse after searching for half an

hour. It was as though the Demon Flame Valley had never owned these things.

Xiao Yan and Xiao Li brows lightly knit as they looked at the members from Xiao Gate helplessly returning from the ruins. Did the members of the Demon Flame Valley move all of these things away?

In his doubt, Xiao Yan's gaze suddenly glanced at Zi Yan, who had crossed her arms over her chest. He was involuntarily startled as he smiled and said, "I had forgotten about you girl. Isn't searching for treasure your speciality?"

"Hmph, you only remembered me now?" Zi Yan coldly snorted at Xiao Yan's words. Clearly, she was somewhat displeased with Xiao Yan for remembering her only at this moment.

Xiao Yan involuntarily let out a bitter laugh when he saw her pout. He persuaded her with nice words, causing a slight smile appear on this little grand-aunt's face. After which she shut her eyes and slowly opened them a moment later. Her body moved and rushed to the deepest parts of the Demon Flame Valley. Xiao Yan, Xiao Li, the Little Fairy Doctor, and the others behind hurriedly followed upon seeing this.

They followed behind Zi Yan as they passed through a long path within the valley. Around a couple of minutes later, their sight was covered by a rock wall that was filled with wild grass.

The few human figures slowly stopped in front of this rock wall. Their gazes swept over it but they did not sense anything unusual about it. Their gazes immediately swept doubtfully to Zi Yan.

Zi Yan immediately smiled pridefully when she saw the lost look on the faces of most of Xiao Yan's group. Her body flashed and moved, appearing at a certain part of the rock wall. After which, she tightly clenched her little fist and violently smashed it down.

"Bang!"

Rock fragments shot in all directions and a crack line formed in the rock wall. Zi Yan once again stepped forward. Her little fist was just like a

machine that opened mountains as she forcefully struck the mountain wall and formed a tunnel that was at least ten meters deep. After which, Xiao Yan and the rest saw a dark-black cave hidden deep within the rock wall.

Xiao Yan sighed in relief after seeing the deep cave behind the wall. He helplessly shook his head and bitterly laughed.

“It is indeed here... but this little girl’s treasure seeking methods are really too barbaric...”

Chapter 922: Rock Cave Storeroom

Xiao Yan extended his hand and pulled the excited-faced Zi Yan behind him as he studied the cave behind the rock wall. After which, his eyes made contact with the Little Fairy Doctor, Su Qian, and Xiao Li. The Dou Qi within their bodies quietly circulated. Only then did they slowly make their way to the hole that had been forcefully created by Zi Yan. They slowly walked in. They were extremely careful where they placed each footstep since they were unaware of what was hidden here.

They made their way through the small tunnel before finally stopping inside of the cave a moment later. Standing at this spot, they could vaguely see some light emitted from within the cave. Some Magical Beast drawings were present on the rock walls surrounding the cave. At a glance they appeared to possess a stern, fierce aura. However, this kind of deterrence was completely useless against Xiao Yan's group.

Su Qian walked at the front. Among all of them, he had preserved the most of his strength. He did not exhaust much strength while dealing with Old Ying Shan. It was safest to have him be at the front while exploring this cave where they were ignorant of possible traps.

Within the cave were long rock stairs. The rock stairs extended into the faint darkness below where one had difficulty seeing. Some Moonlight Rocks, emitting a faint light, had been placed on the surrounding mountain walls in a mosaic manner, expelling the darkness within the cave.

The couple of them walked along the rock stairs, slowly descending. Around ten minutes or so later, they finally arrived at the end. At the edge of this flight of stairs was a tightly shut rock door.

The rock door was completely black in color with moss coverings all over it, giving it the faint sense of being extremely heavy.

"Allow me..."

Zi Yan immediately volunteered when she saw that it was a rock door. Her little face was filled with excitement. This little girl seemed to like to

destroy things.

“You should just wait quietly...” Xiao Yan helplessly shook his head and grabbed Zi Yan. After which, he nodded to Su Qian. No one knew the situation in this place. Hence, it was best to be careful.

Su Qian smiled when he saw this. His shriveled hand slowly pressed on the rock door. After which, the expression in his eyes became stern. A majestic Dou Qi that was sufficient to destroy mountains and break rocks surged out of his arm in a lightning-like manner. After which, it violently smashed against the rock door with an extremely loud sound.

“Bang!”

Rock fragments flew in all directions and the rock door was instantly covered with crack lines. With a ‘bang,’ the door suddenly collapsed. A glaring light suddenly shot out.

Everyone’s eyes narrowed instinctively when the intense light appeared. Immediately, Xiao Yan’s expression changed slightly as he softly cried out, “First Elder, be careful!”

Xiao Yan’s cry had just sounded when a fishy wind shot from behind the rock door. The fierce wind pounced toward Su Qian at the front.

“Hmph!”

The sudden unexpected change did not cause Su Qian to panic. His hands curled as his gentle sleeves immediately turned into something as hard as metal. He violently swept them in front of him. The sharp sound of rushing wind whistled and resounded throughout the cave.

“Clang!”

As the sleeves swept out, a wind surged out like a wave and smashed into the thing that was pouncing over. After which, Xiao Yan and the others heard a sharp scream as the enormous figure suddenly shot backwards, smashing heavily on the ground.

Su Qian’s sleeves moved once again after having forced back the sneak attacker with one strike. Wild wind whistled and the dust in front of him

was completely expelled, revealing the space behind the rock door.

An extremely spacious warehouse appeared in front of Xiao Yan's group. The light within the warehouse was extremely bright. All the surroundings of the warehouse had been built from tough Black Metal Rock. At a glance, this warehouse seemed to have been opened up from a Black Metal Rock vein.

There were quite a number of shelves within the warehouse. Many scrolls were orderly arranged on them. On the other side, were quite a number of crystal cabinets. One could faintly see many rare medicinal ingredients placed within them...

Everyone's gazes slowly swept over the warehouse. Immediately, their gazes paused on the enormous snake-shaped Magical Beast on the ground. Clearly, it was the sneak attacker from earlier.

"A Dou Wang class Magical Beast dares to attack the old me..." Su Qian slowly walked into the warehouse. He glanced at the Magical Beast, which had coiled itself up. It showed its savage snake tongue to them.

"It should be the guardian of this place..." Xiao Yan also smiled. His gaze merely swept over the Magical Beast before turning to the warehouse. Surprise flashed across his eyes when he saw so many scrolls. He clicked his tongue and praised, "It is indeed worthy of being an ancient faction that has existed for so many years. This collection is indeed good."

"These are all arranged in terms of class." Xiao Li involuntarily laughed as he walked closer to a bookshelf and looked at the 'Xuan class Low level' words written on it.

Xiao Yan nodded. His gaze swept around before he walked to the deepest part of the warehouse. An ordinary Xuan class Dou Technique or Qi Method would not catch his eye. He was somewhat curious about whether the Demon Flame Valley had a collection of high class Qi Methods or Dou Techniques that would cause even him to feel surprise.

"Hiss hiss!"

Seeing that Xiao Yan's group had begun searching the warehouse

without any fear, the enormous snake that was covered by green-colored scales immediately coiled and lifted its body. While extending its tongue, it swung its tail, carrying an enormous force that violently swept toward Xiao Yan's group.

Its tail had just been swung, and had yet to approach its target when it was grabbed by a small hand disproportionate to the size of the tail. The owner of the small hand glanced at the enormous snake before curling her mouth. After which, she pulled the tail and dragged the snake out of the warehouse. Regardless of how the enormous snake struggled, the small hand that contained a frightening strength and did not tremble even a little...

"This little girl's brute strength is really frightening. I wonder just what kind of frightening existence her actual form is..." Xiao Yan involuntarily shook his head and sighed as he watched the wailing snake-shaped Magical Beast get dragged away out of the warehouse by Zi Yan and thrown into some unknown place...

"I am also not very certain. When I saw this girl back then, she had already accidentally eaten a matured Body Transforming Grass. However, by being able to possess such a frightening strength as a child, it is likely that her actual body is extraordinary..." Su Qian knit his brows and replied, "However, it is rumored that there are quite a number of mysterious Magical Beast clans south of the Central Plains in the continent. The strength of the Magical Beast clans are extremely powerful. Perhaps, one might be able to obtain a little information about this little girl's actual form there..."

"Magical Beast clan?" Xiao Yan's footsteps paused when he heard this somewhat foreign name.

"In those places, most of the Magical Beasts live together like a tribe. Moreover, when they reach a certain level, some Magical Beast, especially the unique beasts who possess an ancient bloodline, gain an intelligence that is not inferior to that of humans. Moreover, they are able to transform into a human shape. Adding this to their long lifespan, their foundation strength is naturally quite great. Even an ordinary human

faction would not dare to offend them. Of course, there are...” Su Qian stared at Xiao Yan when he spoke until this point and said, “There are some human clans that have a heritage that also originate from ancient times...”

Xiao Yan’s walking footsteps suddenly paused. A moment later he quietly nodded. He knew that what Su Qian was saying was likely the kind of mysterious clan similar to the one behind Xun Er.

“The Central Plains is the most interesting place in the Dou Qi continent. The size of that place is incomparably wide with experts as numerous as the clouds. One can say that standing at the peak of that place is equivalent to standing at the peak of the Dou Qi continent...”

Su Qian smiled faintly and said, “At that place, you might gradually come into contact with the faction behind your little girlfriend. However, it is fortunate that the current you is no longer that small Da Dou Shi when you had just entered the academy. There are some things which you gradually possess the strength to fight for. However, you have only obtained the qualification to fight for it. If you wish to reach that step in your heart, you will need an even greater strength...”

Xiao Yan nodded gently. His hand slowly caressed a scroll in front of him. He inhaled a deep breath of air and slowly suppressed the storm within his heart. However, that pretty face, like an ethereal lotus blooming within this mundane world, quietly surfaced. This face had difficulty disappearing.

“Xun Er...”

The hand under Xiao Yan’s sleeves was suddenly tightened. A heat that was difficult to hide also rose within his eyes. He clearly remembered the words that Xun Er had told him before she left. Before reaching the Dou Zong class, he must not make contact... it was likely that she was worried about the various obstructions from within the clan when they met.

“Dou Zong huh...”

The young face revealed a determination under the light. From the way he saw it back then, a Dou Zong appeared to be a distant and unreachable

level. Now, however... it was within reach.

“Wait for me... at that time, I will let everyone in your clan know that your eyesight is the best!”

Xiao Yan softly muttered in his heart. His eyes also erupted into a heated expression that one had never seen, ambition and anticipation. The so-called trash of the Xiao clan would ultimately give everyone a big shock!

By the time Xiao Yan's withdrew his mind, his footsteps had also come to a stop. He had already walked to the end of the warehouse without realizing it. The shelves beside him did not have many scrolls like the ones in front. Instead, it only had four ancient wooden boxes. These few wooden boxes were wrapped in wrought iron with some ancient drawings carved onto them. One could tell at a glance that they were not ordinary items.

The surroundings of this bookshelf were not without any protection like the other bookshelves. There was a faint light barrier around them, isolating them. The dense energy vaguely being emitted by the light barrier caused surprise to flash across Xiao Yan's eyes. Good things did indeed need to be a little unique...

Xiao Yan was not in a hurry to forcefully damage this light barrier. As this thought flashed across his heart, his gaze slowly swept around the bookshelf, and immediately paused on two simple words above the bookshelf.

“Di class!”

A smile surfaced on Xiao Yan's face as he looked at these two words. It seemed that his trip was not wasted this time around. Di class Qi Methods and Dou Techniques were rare items. Moreover, for them to be able to be placed so precious by the Old Ground Demon Ghost, it was likely that they were not some ordinary items...

Chapter 923: Sky Demon Puppet

A faint light curtain covered the bookshelf. This light curtain might appear thin and weak but it contained a strong energy.

“Huh?”

Xiao Yan’s gaze cautiously swept over the light barrier. A moment later, he suddenly emitted a surprised sound. He had discovered that the surroundings of this light barrier contained some spatial traces that were difficult to notice.

“This light barrier should be something placed by the Old Ground Demon Ghost. It contains some spatial strength within it. Although it is not very strong, it is likely that any forceful attempt to destroy it would damage the items inside.” Su Qian by his side also discovered the uniqueness of this light barrier. He immediately frowned a little and spoke somewhat awkwardly. These treasures and secret books usually possessed some restrictions. If one were to make a mistake, they would be destroyed and one would return empty-handed.

Xiao Yan nodded slightly. He flicked his finger and jade-green flame wisp appeared on its tip. It gently made contact with the light curtain.

“Chi chi...”

The light curtain began to fluctuate after the flame made contact with it. Circular ripples spread out from the point of contact. Suddenly, the space outside of the light barrier began to distort. Xiao Yan frowned slightly when he noticed the change. The flame on his finger slowly scattered. Although this light barrier might seem weak, the energy that was contained within it would suddenly explode if it was forcefully destroyed. That explosive force might not be powerful, but it should not be much of a problem to destroy the scrolls with it.

Seeing Xiao Yan withdraw his hand, Su Qian and the others understood that this light barrier was not as easy to undo as they had imagined. They all descended deep into thought.

“The Old Ground Demon Ghost is indeed worthy of being a seven star elite Dou Zong. Even a seal that he has left behind is so troublesome...” Su Qian sighed as he spoke. This kind of feeling of being able to see a treasure but being unable to take it was awful.

Xiao Yan gently knit his brows. He suddenly turned and faced Zi Yan, who was hopping back down having finished off the Magical Beast. A joy immediately flashed onto his face. He had almost forgotten that Zi Yan seemed to have a natural immunity to these energy seals. Back then, she had been able to break through the dense energy seal within the Inner Academy without it posing any obstruction.

“Hmph, what are you thinking of doing?” Zi Yan immediately became cautious. She snorted after seeing Xiao Yan’s smiling manner upon her return.

“Take out all the things on this shelf and I will return all of the medicinal ingredients that you have deposited with me. Moreover, I will help you refine all of them into flavors that you like the most...” Xiao Yan softly laughed.

Zi Yan’s gem-like eyes immediately brightened when she heard this. However, she acted in a calm manner and walked in front of the bookshelf. She glanced at the light barrier outside of the bookshelf and immediately said, worried, “You must keep your word...”

Xiao Yan smiled and nodded.

Seeing this, Zi Yan finally turned her body and extended her small hand into the light barrier. After which, she reached the bookshelf without any obstruction in front of the group’s shocked faces. She began to pull out the four wooden boxes one at a time.

“The strange ability of this girl really amazes people. Not only does she possess a great strength, but she also has the special ability to sense rare medicinal ingredients. Now, she even possesses an immunity to these energy barriers...” Su Qian involuntarily shook his head, watching as Zi Yan removed the four wooden boxes without much effort. His tone was filled with astonishment.

Xiao Yan nodded his head while sharing the same thought. He immediately took the four ancient wooden boxes from Zi Yan's hands and opened them one after another.

Two silver-colored scrolls were placed within the first box. The material of these scrolls were quite strange, appearing just like a kind of strange crystal. Their surface even possessed a slight lightning that roamed around like silver snakes.

Surprise flashed across Xiao Yan's eyes when he saw these extraordinary looking scrolls. After which, he took one out and slowly pulled it open.

"Rushing Lightning Mirror, Di class Middle level, lightning affinity Qi Method..."

The surprise in Xiao Yan's eyes grew even denser when he saw the introduction written on the scroll. Lightning affinity Qi Methods were quite rare. Such high class ones were even harder to find. It was unexpected that they would find one here.

"Second brother, this is something good..." Xiao Yan raised his head and smiled to Xiao Li. After which, Xiao Yao then tossed the scroll to him. Xiao Yan belonged to the fire affinity. A lightning affinity Qi Method had little use to him.

Xiao Li hurriedly opened the scroll after receiving it. Joy immediately surfaced on his face as he excitedly said, "It is actually a Di class Middle level lightning affinity Qi Method. Ha ha, looks like I did not come in vain this time around." After muddling around the 'Black-Corner Region' for such a long time, he naturally understood just what kind of commotion a lightning affinity Qi Method of this class would create if auctioned.

Of course, he was naturally not foolish enough to take this 'Rushing Lightning Mirror' out to auction. He was of the lightning affinity. If he had this 'Rushing Lightning Mirror,' it was likely that he would be able to charge to the Dou Haung class within an extremely short amount of time.

Xiao Yan also smiled as he looked at the excited Xiao Li. He took out the other silver-colored scroll within the wooden box. He laughed softly, "Shocking Dormant Lightning Method, Di class Middle level Dou Skill. It

is a Dou Skill that forms a set with the 'Rushing Lightning Mirror.' Ke ke, looks like second brother's acquisition today is going to be fantastic..." Xiao Yan tossed this scroll to Xiao Li as he spoke. Xiao Li hurriedly and carefully grabbed it before involuntarily laughing out loud.

"Looks like this Old Ground Demon Ghost is also unwilling to take such a Qi Method out to auction. Hence, he ended up storing them here..." Su Qian glanced at the laughing Xiao Li and smiled as he spoke.

Xiao Yan nodded. He once again opened a wooden box and a somewhat familiar bright-red scroll appeared in his eyes.

"Flame Creation Skill?"

Xiao Yan was immediately startled when he saw this scroll and ended up saying the words out loud. A helpless expression immediately surfaced in his face. He had already obtained this 'Flame Creation Skill' from Fang Yan and the other two Elders. However, he had yet to practice it even now. He did not expect another to appear at this moment.

Xiao Yan took the scroll and slowly pushed it open. The three large words, 'Flame Creation Skill,' were imprinted into his eyes. This caused the helpless look on Xiao Yan's face to become even greater. It seemed that this thing did not have much use...

"Huh?"

Just when Xiao Yan was planning to randomly store it away, his hand, that was slowly pulling open the scroll, suddenly paused. His gaze immediately paused on an exceptionally bright-red word that was written behind the three large words, 'Flame Creation Skill.'

"Real!"

"Real? Flame Creation Skill, Real?" Xiao Yan was immediately stunned when he saw this 'real' word. He immediately knit his brows. Could it be that the Flame Creation Skill that he had obtained from Fang Yan and the other two Elders was fake?

While he frowning intently, Xiao Yan swiftly pulled open the scroll and carefully read the words on it.

“This Flame Creation Skill is something that the old me has spent many years of effort to improve. In the past, the Flame Creation Skill might have been strong, but it required at least three people to practice it in order to agglomerate and form a kind of ‘Fake Heavenly Flame.’ Moreover, each time it is agglomerated, one would pay a heavy price. However, this skill is one level higher. Practicing it by oneself will also allow one to successfully form a ‘Fake Heavenly Flame.’ Moreover, its strength far exceeds the former. The backlash is also much weaker. Although the training method is even more complicated, it can be considered a flaw that can be ignored when compared to what one can gain...”

Xiao Yan was involuntarily affected as his gaze slowly swept over it. The reason why he did not practice the Flame Creation Skill was because of the great backlash that came from the agglomerated the ‘Heavenly Flame.’ This kind of backlash was something that he had difficulty accepting. However, it was unexpected that the Old Ground Demon Ghost was actually able to improve it to such perfection. If one were to talk about it, he really did possess a great ability...

“Once I successfully master this Flame Creation Skill, would I be able to form a kind of ‘Fake Heavenly Flame’ on my own in the future? If that is the case... the Elimination Fire Lotus would no longer have its only restraint. It would be a great help to me in my venture to the Central Plains. This Old Ground Demon Ghost has really helped me out.” A faint joy flashed across Xiao Yan’s face when he thought to this point. This trip today was indeed not wasted.

Su Qian and the rest smiled when they saw the joy on Xiao Yan’s face. After which, their gazes were thrown to the remaining two ancient wooden boxes.

Xiao Yan also laughed when he saw their gazes. After which, he opened the two wooden boxes together.

The wooden boxes were opened, revealing two items within. One was a fist-sized fiery-red round bead while the other was a grayish-brown ordinary-looking bamboo scroll.

The gazes of Xiao Yan's group were first gathered on the fiery-red bead. They could sense that it contained a wild and violent fire affinity energy.

"This is... a Monster Core?" Xiao Yan's eyes firmly remained on the fiery-red bead as he spoke somewhat uncertainly. This was the first time that he had seen such a high rank Monster Core.

"Yes, it is indeed a Monster Core... However, its rank is quite high. Moreover, it likely belonged to a high rank Magical Beast that can already transform its body. Otherwise, it's unlikely that it would possess such a color and energy."

Su Qian fondled his beard. Surprise flashed across his eyes as he said, "According to my guess, this Magical Beast should be a rank 7 fire affinity Monster Core. It is unexpected that the Old Ground Demon Ghost even possessed such an item..."

Rank 7 Magical Beast. That was equivalent to the Dou Zong class. The Monster Core that was formed within the body of a Magical Beast of such a rank was extremely valuable. Moreover, the intelligence of a Magical Beast at this rank was not inferior to that of a human. If it was really forced to a dead end, it would self-destruct its Monster Core and would not allow its enemies to get anything. Hence, there was seldom anyone who could obtain a Monster Core of such a rank.

Xiao Yan nodded his head. His surprised eyes paused for a moment on the fiery-red bead. After which, he turned to the extremely ordinary bamboo scroll...

The bamboo scroll was a grayish-brown color. Its material also appeared extremely ordinary. However, Xiao Yan knew that something kept here by the Old Ground Demon Ghost would not be ordinary.

Xiao Yan slowly pulled the bamboo scroll open after gently cracking a tiny line on it. After which, some blood words that contained a ruthless violence appeared in front of his sweeping gaze, causing his heart to leap abruptly.

"Sky Demon Puppet!"

Chapter 924: Soul Cultivating Saliva

“Sky Demon Puppet?”

Xiao Yan's eyes solidified as he looked at the three large blood-red words. His heart immediately carried a slight doubt as he slowly opened the bamboo scroll. Some more blood-red words, that contained a bloodthirstiness were imprinted into his eyes.

“Sky Demon Puppet. This skill is not a Qi Method nor is it an ordinary Dou Technique. Instead, it is a puppet skill that has been passed down from ancient times. One must gather three items in order to refine the Sky Demon Puppet. A corpse, a spirit, and a Monster Core. The corpse is the device, the spirit is the guide and the Monster Core is the heart. This, accompanied by many other ingredients will ultimately form a Demon Puppet. The Demon Puppet is divided into three levels, Sky, Ground, and Man. The differences between them are determined by the ingredients and the flame used during the refinement. A Demon Puppet possesses an unending amount of strength, and does not have any emotion nor does it feel any pain. It is basically a killing machine.”

The surprise on Xiao Yan's face became denser as his gaze slowly swept across the blood-red words on the bamboo scroll. This so-called Puppet skill was something that he had heard of before. However, it was unexpected that it was actually this mysterious.

When Xiao Yan's gaze shifted away from the final blood-red word, he also let out a long breath. His heart was extremely interested in the so-called 'Sky Demon Puppet.' If he refined one, it was likely that he would have an additional bodyguard by his side that only obeyed his orders...

Xiao Yan sighed and shook his head. He handed the bamboo scroll to Su Qian and the others beside him. Their faces also revealed some surprise after they received and carefully read through it.

“This kind of puppet skill is something that I occasionally saw in some ancient books. However, I had never come across a refining method. It is unexpected that the Old Ground Demon Ghost actually possessed such a

collection. It is likely that the rank 7 fire affinity Monster Core from earlier is something that was obtained by this old fellow in order to refine the 'Sky Demon Puppet'." Su Qian clicked his tongue and sighed after he finished reading the scroll.

Xiao Yan smiled and nodded. He extended his hand and took out the fiery-red Monster Core. Xiao Yan stroked it with his hand. The smile that was on his face became wider as he sensed the majestic energy contained within it.

"However, this 'Sky Demon Puppet' refining method does indeed show a bloodthirstiness. Taking a person's corpse and spirit, and then mixing them with a Monster Core. Gathering all three items and coordinating them with their own unique refining method. Perhaps the strength of the thing that is refined would really be extremely shocking." Su Qian shook his head and returned the bamboo scroll. He said, "You should keep this thing. It would not be good for such a thing to appear within the academy. Since you are about to roam the Central Plains, it is more suitable for you."

"Thank you First Elder."

Xiao Yan smiled upon receiving the scroll. He did not put on an act. This 'Sky Demon Puppet' really interested him. Moreover, other than some of the special ingredients, he basically had all of the basic parts written on it: corpse, spirit, and Monster Core. He might really be able to refine the so-called 'Sky Demon Puppet'.

Xiao Yan stored the bamboo scroll and the Flame Creation Skill into his Storage Ring. He looked all around him. The other Qi Methods and Dou Techniques around this place could no longer satisfy him. Only the rare medicinal ingredients that were perfectly preserved had some use to him. Hence, when he grabbed things, he also took some of the medicinal ingredients that might be useful to him in the future.

After grabbing all of the things he needed, Xiao Yan finally stopped without feeling completely satisfied. Few of the remaining things within the warehouse could meet his eyes. However, it was an enormous windfall to Xiao Gate. Xiao Gate had been established for a short period of time

and had a weak foundation. It did not have many Qi Methods nor Dou Techniques for its members to practice. Now that they had raided the Demon Flame Valley stores, they were ultimately able to resolve this trouble.

Xiao Li also smiled when he saw Xiao Yan stop. He summoned some members of Xiao Gate and used some Storage Rings to move everything. After which, everyone looked at the empty warehouse, laughed dryly with dark faces and left...

After having raided the Demon Flame Valley, Xiao Yan left a couple of members of Xiao Gate to stand guard before everyone else flew toward the Inner Academy. At this moment, there were many things that Xiao Yan needed to do. Forget about the matter of refining the 'Sky Demon Puppet.' The most important matter was to refine a kind of medicinal pill that could nourish one's spirit within ten days. Otherwise, if Tian Huo zun-zhe's spirit quietly scattered, the fierce spirit sealed within the ring would likely rush out again. Of course, compared to fighting the fierce spirit, the most serious matter was losing the enormous help that Tian Huo zun-zhe could provide in the future. Xiao Yan clearly knew just what kind of benefit he would enjoy once Tian Huo zun-zhe's strength recovered. At that time, it was likely that he would have some confidence even when facing the 'Hall of Souls' head-on. After all, according to what he knew, above the Protectors were Honorable Elders. These Honorable Elders were likely only a little lower than the mysterious Hall Chief. From this, one could tell that even the 'Hall of Souls' had experts at the Dou Zun class.

Moreover, he was about to head to the Central Plains soon. The experts there were as numerous as the clouds. Moreover, the people who had the ability to participate in the 'Pill Gathering' would likely not have a weak background or strength. If he did not possess some trump cards, it was likely that he would be eaten by others until even his bones disappeared. The weak were mere meat to be eaten by the strong. This was a rule that would not change no matter where one was.

Hence, Xiao Yan must prepare all of his trump cards during the remaining time. He also needed to learn more about the Central Plains in

order to prepare himself mentally.

Xiao Yan entered the place where medicinal ingredients were stored after having returned to the Inner Academy. He had to grab every minute and second in order to refine the medicinal pill that nourished one's spirit.

Ten days time was a little tight. It was basically an impossible task to complete for the past Xiao Yan. However, it was fortunate that Yao Lao had left behind a rich collection for Xiao Yan when he was captured. This collection was full of the many medicinal formulas that Yao Lao had learned during his lifetime. With these medicinal formulas, Xiao Yan was able to find the right solution. There was no need for him to hurriedly go everywhere in search of medicinal formulas at the last minute.

A medicinal pill for the nourishment of a spirit was pretty uncommon. Hence, it was quite rare. However, Yao Lao was indeed worthy of his name as Yao zun-zhe. Xiao Yan took only an hour of searching before he finally found a suitable medicinal pill for the current Tian Huo zun-zhe from the many medicinal formulas.

“Soul Cultivating Saliva.”

This small thing's tier was not considered too high. It was coincidentally around a tier 5 pill and was not too troublesome to refine. However, the only flaw was that the medicinal ingredients required were far too unusual. It was fortunate that Xiao Yan's current collection was extremely rich. Additionally, the Inner Academy had a store that had been stocked for many years. Hence, it did not cause Xiao Yan too much of a headache.

After gathering the many necessary medicinal ingredients to refine the 'Soul Cultivating Saliva,' Xiao Yan sighed in relief. After which, he summoned his medicinal cauldron. His flame slowly drifted from his hand, and began to work hard to refine a pill during the countdown of the scattering of Tian Huo zun-zhe's spirit. Perhaps it was because he was pressed for time but Xiao Yan's heart had become a little more anxious. Hence, he failed his first two attempts at refinement. However, it was fortunate that Xiao Yan had understood the source of the problem after failing twice. He slowly calmed himself down. The refinement process

gradually took the right path.

The refinement this time around did not end even after continuing for three full days. Although this 'Soul Cultivating Saliva' might not appear difficult to refine, it consumed an exceptional amount of time. After the lesson earlier, Xiao Yan's heart did not form any anxiety. He continued to maintain a warm flame, slowly refining the cluster of emerald-like liquid within the medicinal cauldron.

With this calm attitude, no other trouble occurred during the refinement. When the refinement reached the fifth day, Xiao Yan, who had his eyes tightly shut, finally opened them. He beckoned with his hand and a cluster of liquid emitting an emerald-like luster shot out of the medicinal cauldron. After which, it remained suspended in front of him.

Xiao Yan sighed in relief as he looked at this cluster of emerald liquid as life force permeated from it. He slowly raised his finger with the white-colored ring. The finger beckoned and the liquid drifted down. Finally, it fell on the ring and slowly seeped into it.

The white-colored ring, that had been quiet for a the last couple of days finally emitted a bright luster after this 'Soul Cultivating Saliva' entered it. Xiao Yan was able to sense the spirit, that had laid in slumber, slowly awaken.

When the final drop of 'Soul Cultivating Saliva' completely entered the ring, the spirit within the ring emitted some life. An old voice that was filled with gratitude could be heard.

"Ke ke, Xiao Yan, your kindness is too great for mere thanks. This time around, you can consider the old me owing you a favor."

Xiao Yan let out a long breath as though he had released a heavy burden upon hearing this familiar voice. He wiped off the cold sweat on his forehead and smiled as he said, "What is Old mister Yao saying. If you had not intervened and settled that fierce spirit, I would have been unlucky."

"I settled that fierce spirit because I wished to snatch its Spiritual Strength. Therefore, it has nothing to do with you. You need not say anything more. The old me is not someone who cannot differentiate

between kindness and resentment.” Tian Huo zun-zhe’s laughter was transmitted from the ring.

Xiao Yan could only spread his hands upon hearing this. He would naturally not reject an elite Dou Zun owing him a favor.

Xiao Yan extended his hand and returned the medicinal cauldron to his Storage Ring. He tidied up the place a little before walking out of the warehouse. He said while walking, “Old mister Yao has just woken up, you should rest first. There is no need to hurry over the matter of the fierce spirit.”

“Yes, with my current condition, it would be difficult to refine it.” Tian Huo zun-zhe agreed with him.

Xiao Yan smiled. He pushed open the door and slowly walked in the glaring sunlight. However, he had just walked out when he saw Xiao Li pacing back and forth outside of the warehouse. He was involuntarily startled as he smiled and asked, “Second brother, why are you here?”

Xiao Li hurriedly turned his body around when he heard this voice. He involuntarily sighed in relief when he saw Xiao Yan walk out. His expression became solemn as he said, “You have finally come out. Quick! Quickly go and take a look at the Little Fairy Doctor. Something has happened to her!”

The smile on Xiao Yan’s face suddenly stiffened. Without waiting for Xiao Li to react, he transformed into a blurry black figure that charged away in a lightning-like manner. Xiao Li smiled bitterly and sighed before quickly following the figure.

Chapter 925: The Woeful Poison Body Erupting Ahead of Time

By the time Xiao Yan rushed to the Little Fairy Doctor's residence, he had discovered that the place had already been completely sealed by an energy light barrier that originated from the top down. Some of the Inner Academy Elders had stopped at this place with solemn faces, and chased away some curious students who had arrived.

A black figure approached from the distant and appeared outside of the light curtain an instant later. The few Inner Academy Elders were about to stop him when they saw this person's face. Only then did they sigh in relief. They cupped their hands to Xiao Yan and moved their bodies aside. "First Elder is inside. You should quickly go in. Be careful of the poison gas." An Elder swiftly said after seeing Xiao Yan.

The anxiety within Xiao Yan's eyes became even denser when he heard this. He nodded and a jade-green flame surged from his body. He immediately entered the light barrier.

A grayish air that carried some stench pounced toward him after he entered the light barrier. However, when it reached the jade-green flame, it was grilled by the high temperature into nothingness, emitting waves of chi chi sound.

Xiao Yan ignored the grayish air that lingered around him and swiftly passed through the courtyard. His footsteps paused when he saw First Elder Su Qian pacing back and forth at the entrance. He hurriedly asked, "First Elder, what has happened?"

Su Qian hurriedly turned around when he heard Xiao Yan's voice. He immediately sighed in relief. Pointing to the interior of the house, he spoke with a bitter smile, "I am also unaware of what has happened. Today, an Elder suddenly came and report that this place was emitting a poison gas. Quite a few students have accidentally become unconsciousness from the poison. I can only seal this place. Originally, I wanted to head in and investigate, but the poison gas inside is too dense.

Its corrosive strength is extremely great. If I were to forcefully enter, I'm afraid..."

Xiao Yan's heart tightened. An uneasiness surged forth. He inhaled a deep breath and swiftly walked forward. When he was about to push open the door, Su Qian by the side hesitated a little and held back his hand that was about to halt Xiao Yan. He sighed, "Be careful."

With a nod, Xiao Yan pushed open the door. The jade-green flame curled and rose, wrapping all around his body without letting even a little air pass through. After which, he slowly walked into the room saturated by the grayish-purple poison.

A thread of grayish-purple poison fog scattered out when the door was opened. Su Qian hurriedly used his Dou Qi to wrap it up. After which, he carefully refined it. With a wave of his sleeve, the opened door was once again tightly shut. He cried out loud, "Xiao Yan, shout out loud if any situation occurs!"

"First Elder, relax. It is fine if you seal this place. Do not allow anyone else to enter." Xiao Yan's solemn voice was transmitted from the room.

Su Qian nodded. He slowly stepped back and looked at the house. After a brief hesitation, the seal on his hand suddenly moved and a Dou Qi pillar shot out. Immediately, it scattered down from the sky and wrapped the house within it. After doing all this, he still appeared to feel somewhat uneasy. He used his spatial strength to add another layer of defense outside of the Dou Qi barrier.

One could not blame Su Qian for being this careful. Even he was extremely afraid of the poison gas within the Little Fairy Doctor's body. If this poison gas was allowed to spread, it was likely that not a corpse would be left with the entire Inner Academy.

"Ugh, hopefully, Xiao Yan is able to resolve this matter." Su Qian only sighed in relief after doing all this. He looked at the tightly shut room and muttered with a bitter smile.

One's sight was greatly hindered within the room where the poison gas originated. However, by borrowing the slight breathing sound that was

transmitted over, Xiao Yan was able to vaguely locate the Little Fairy Doctor.

Layers upon layers of grayish-purple poison fog lingered within the room. Following each approaching step, the surrounding poison fog was filled with waves of ripples. However, it was fortunate that he had the Glazed Lotus Core Flame protecting his body. With the help of the high temperature isolation, the poison gas was unable to cause him much harm.

Xiao Yan took around a dozen steps before a pink bed appeared in front of his eyes. A lovely figure was gently curled up on the bed. A tightly wrapped thin quilt faintly outlined the graceful figure under it. The dense poison fog that permeated the room poured unceasingly from her body...

The figure within the quilt trembled slightly appearing to have sensed the sound of footsteps. Immediately, a pair of grayish-purple eyes that appeared to be suffering shot out from within. The eyes looked at the black-robed, young man who had walked to the side of her bed. Her soft voice contained a suffering that was difficult to hide, "The 'Woeful Poison Body' appears to be about to erupt ahead of time."

Although Xiao Yan had long anticipated this, his face still involuntarily changed when he heard these words. He looked at the pain and paleness on her moving face and hurriedly sat down beside her bed. He softly comforted her, "Relax, everything will be fine. There's still me around."

Xiao Yan's heart clearly understood that with the Little Fairy Doctor's strength, she would at the very least be able to suppress the 'Woeful Poison Body' for a year. However, during this period of time, she had undone the seal of the 'Woeful Poison Body' a couple of times. This had significantly brought forward the time of the eruption...

"Give your hand to me." Xiao Yan said. He might be beating himself in his heart, but he did not dare delay things any longer.

The Little Fairy Doctor hesitated a little when she heard him, but she extended her long delicate arm from the under quilt. At this moment, her hand was faintly emitting a strange purple color, causing the solemnness in

Xiao Yan's eyes to become denser.

Xiao Yan's hand was placed on Little Fairy Doctor wrist. A slight wisp of flame followed the point of contact and seeped in. After which, it swiftly entered the Little Fairy Doctor's body.

Xiao Yan's expression gradually become much uglier after the flame seeped in. At this moment, the Little Fairy Doctor's body seemed to have completely infused with the poison gas. Moreover, this poison gas appeared to be rising and entering her head. Xiao Yan knew that if this poison gas were to enter her brain, the Little Fairy Doctor's consciousness would gradually blur. At that time, it was likely that she would become like the past owners of the 'Woeful Poison Body,' waiting for the miserable final step. Born from woe, and dying in woe!

The Little Fairy Doctor's intelligent eyes slowly became much dimmer as she looked at Xiao Yan's gradually uglier expression. The back of her teeth bit her lower lip as she softly said, "Xiao Yan, I have been very happy following you during this period of time. You are my first friend and might also be my last. If I really reach that step, I hope that you will not hold back. I love the academy in this place very much. After I lose consciousness, I don't wish to..."

"Shut up! What nonsense are you spouting?" Hearing the Little Fairy Doctor's saying her last words, Xiao Yan immediately frowned and reprimanded her.

Despite being reprimanded, the Little Fairy Doctor was not angry. She instead revealed a faint moving smile on her face. Her head was tilted slightly as she leaned against the pillow on her back. A pair of bewitching grayish-purple eyes gently stared at Xiao Yan's repeatedly changing face. This feeling of someone being concerned and anxious about her was something that she had not enjoyed much of. It seemed that this feeling was very nice...

Xiao Yan did not have the time to bother about the Little Fairy Doctor's gaze at this moment. He tightly knit his brows and descended deep into thought. The so-called Poison Pill method to completely control the

‘Woeful Poison Body’ still lacked the ‘Sky Poison Dragon Scorpion Beast’ Monster Core. It was one of the key ingredients of the Poison Pill and could not be left out. Otherwise, if one were to attempt to forcefully make it, it would only end up wasting the Bodhisattva Body Transformation Saliva that he had obtained after much effort.

Xiao Yan’s mind churned with all its might, attempting to find a kind of method to temporarily suppress the ‘Woeful Poison Body’ from the medicinal formulas that Yao Lao had left behind. However, the result left him disappointed. The ‘Woeful Poison Body’ was extremely rare. It was impossible for Yao Lao to purposefully find some method to deal with this kind of thing. Hence, Xiao Yan’s search was futile.

Just when Xiao Yan was anxious and helpless that his face was covered with perspiration, an old voice suddenly carried a little surprise as it sounded from within his heart, “‘Woeful Poison Constitution?’ Hei, it is unexpected that the old me is able to see this thing twice in my lifetime. I am really lucky.”

A wild joy immediately surged into Xiao Yan’s heart when he heard this voice. He appeared to be grabbing onto his last straw as he hurriedly inquired, “Old mister Yao, do you also know about the ‘Woeful Poison Body?’ Do you have a method to temporarily suppress it?”

“Haha, the ‘Woeful Poison Body.’ Who among the older generation does not know of such a name?” Tian Huo zun-zhe laughed faintly, “However, this friend of yours seems to be in the last stages of the ‘Woeful Poison Body’ eruption. If it is not sealed and the poison gas enters her brain, the result...”

Xiao Yan was startled when he heard this. He inhaled a deep breath of air and asked, “Does old mister Yao know a method to suppress this ‘Woeful Poison Body?’”

“Consider yourself lucky that you have met the old me at this time. It is likely that there are extremely few people who know about this sealing method in this continent. Back then, I also possessed a friend with the ‘Woeful Poison Body.’ This sealing method was created for him.

Unfortunately, this seal can only be used once and, at the very most, only last three years. Three years later, I still failed to find a method to overcome the 'Woeful Poison Body,' hence..." Tian Huo zun-zhe softly sighed.

Xiao Yan was also startled when he heard his words. This world was indeed full of strange coincidences. After sighing emotionally, he also exhaled in relief, feeling as though he had removed a heavy burden. A three year seal was already sufficient. He did not believe that he would not be able to obtain the so-called Sky Poison Dragon Scorpion Beast Monster Core within three years.

"This seal is called the 'All Day Fire Seal.' It borrows the positive violence in a fire affinity Qi Method to suppress the poison gas. Currently, the 'Heavenly Flame' you possess within your body is able to optimize the effects of the seal. Below is the sealing method." Tian Huo zun-zhe's voice had just sounded when a message surged into Xiao Yan's mind. He swiftly received it.

Xiao Yan shut his eyes tightly. A moment later, he finally began to slowly open them. His expression gradually recovered its normal appearance. He lifted his eyes, glanced at the Little Fairy Doctor on the bed, and laughed softly, "There is a method to suppress it." The Little Fairy Doctor was startled when she heard this. Joy flowed from her face.

Xiao Yan also smiled when he saw her reaction. After which, he appeared to have recalled something and involuntarily and dryly coughed. He haltingly said, "In order to use this seal, you will need to remove your clothes." Xiao Yan's words had just sounded when the pretty face of the Little Fairy Doctor abruptly turned into a burning hot one. She turned her head to one side and did not dare look at Xiao Yan.

Chapter 926: Seal

The pretty, red-faced Little Fairy Doctor shrank under the thin quilt. Her wonderful eyes, staring at Xiao Yan, were so red it seemed that water was about to seep out from them.

Xiao Yan was somewhat embarrassed when he was stared at in this manner. He immediately thickened the skin of his face as he said, "It is indeed necessary for the seal..."

The bright-redness on Little Fairy Doctor's face was reduced greatly when she saw Xiao Yan's embarrassed manner. The back of her teeth bit her red lower lip. After which, she straightened her body in a mermaid-like manner. Her delicate hands trembled slightly as she removed her clothes.

Her delicate hands moved and her clothes quietly fell. Immediately, a lovely suet-like naked body appeared in front of Xiao Yan, causing a certain person's breathing to involuntarily become a little heavier. If he were able to maintain a calm mind during such a situation, it was likely that he was not a man...

Xiao Yan violently clenched his teeth. He gave himself two tight slaps in his heart. After which, he forcefully turned his gaze away and inhaled a deep breath. He attempted to maintain an unchanged tone as he said, "Lie down..."

After watching Xiao Yan, the embarrassment and anxiety within the Little Fairy Doctor's heart became fainter without her realizing it. She slowly lay down as she was told and gently shut her pretty eyes.

The corner of Xiao Yan's eyes saw the Little Fairy Doctor lay down. He once again inhaled a couple of deep breaths and got himself to completely calm down. After which, he slowly extended a finger. A wisp of a jade-green flame was vaguely visible on its tip.

"It might be a little painful, but it will work if you endure it."

Xiao Yan softly said. After which, his finger paused for a moment before

falling suddenly. Eventually, it landed at a point below the Little Fairy Doctor's neck, but above her breasts. When the finger pressed on this spot, the Little Fairy Doctor's smooth jade-like skin emitted waves of white smoke. Some grayish air was faintly present within the smoke.

A low muffled moan was emitted from the Little Fairy Doctor's mouth as the white smoke rose. The Little Fairy Doctor's eyebrows were vertical. At a glance, she really caused others to feel a tender affection for her.

A faint green point appeared where Xiao Yan's finger had landed. Xiao Yan endured the comfort brought about by the gentle sensation as his finger slowly rolled down according to the route of the 'All Sky Fire Seal'...

Threads of white fog once again rose as Xiao Yan's finger moved. A faint-green fire scar slowly appeared on her perfect artwork-like body. This additional green-colored fire scar not only did not cause even the slightest flaw to appear on this lovely body but had instead given it an additional sexy feeling.

Xiao Yan's expression had become more and more solemn following the movement of his finger. At this moment, he needed to control the flame on the tip of his finger at an extremely precise temperature, so he could complete the seal and not cause the flame to harm the Little Fairy Doctor.

Xiao Yan's finger was like a paint brush as it gently shifted around the Little Fairy Doctor's body. It created many strange crisscrossing lines. These lines faintly emitted a profoundness as they crossed each other.

As these numerous faint green-colored fire scars appeared on her body, the Little Fairy Doctor had gotten used to the searing pain. A strange feeling slowly spread out from the bottom of her heart. This feeling caused her to feel extremely comfortable. However, the faint restraint of a woman caused her to tightly clench her teeth and not allow a moan to be emitted. Under this kind of stalemate, a bright-red color quietly surfaced on her jade-white skin. At a glance, it appeared dreamlike and breathtaking.

At this moment, Xiao Yan's eyes were observing his nose and his nose was observing his heart. His mind was completely focused while his hand

followed the seal drawing in his mind and moved slowly, sketching something...

With the tracing of Xiao Yan's finger, a fire scar drawing that emitted threads of profoundness gradually appeared on the Little Fairy Doctor's body. Perhaps it was because the sealing method was about to take shape, but the poison gas that had spread from Little Fairy Doctor's body became swifter and more fierce. However, it was fortunate that Xiao Yan had the protection of a 'Heavenly Flame.' The poison fog was completely vaporized by the frighteningly high temperature of the 'Heavenly Flame' when it pounced over.

The solemn look in Xiao Yan's eyes became denser. He appeared to have sensed the change of the poison gas within the Little Fairy Doctor's body, and the speed at which his finger moved also increased. Numerous green-colored fire scars covered Little Fairy Doctor's entire body in a gradual manner.

"Ah..."

With the quicker movement of Xiao Yan's hand, the strange feeling within the Little Fairy Doctor's body became more concentrated. The faint searing pain feeling seemed to have transformed into an unusual pleasure at this moment. In the end, the Little Fairy Doctor was unable to endure it any longer. A numb, lazy moan was secretly emitted from her small mouth.

Xiao Yan's body quivered violently under the moan. His teeth bit the tip of his tongue with all his might, using the pain to suppress the nefarious flame that had suddenly rose within his body. He smiled bitterly and said, "Please, if you do not wish for your consciousness to be corroded by the poison gas, please, endure a little more. Don't distract me."

The Little Fairy Doctor's pretty face once again turned fiery hot when she heard Xiao Yan's words. She appeared just like a bright-red apple. No matter how cold and indifferent she usually was, her current expression was no different than an ordinary girl.

Xiao Yan also sighed in relief when he heard the Little Fairy Doctor

become quiet. He hurriedly focused his attention and continued to sketch the seal.

With the gradual formation of the seal, the grayish-purple poison fog that had surged out of the Little Fairy Doctor's body became thicker. In the end, almost every bit of poison fog that surged out violently pounced at Xiao Yan's body. After which, waves of white smoke and 'chi chi' sounds would erupt when they made contact with the jade-green flame.

At this moment, Xiao Yan had begun to feel like he would be unable to endure any longer despite the Glazed Lotus Heart Flame protecting his body. The corrosive strength of the poison gas was really overly frightening. Moreover, there was an endless amount of it. It was as though it would never be exhausted. Hence, the Glazed Lotus Heart Flame on Xiao Yan's body began to gradually weaken in the face of such a battle. Although the Dou Qi within his body continued to circulate and maneuver the flame, it still had difficulty keeping up because of its exhaustion.

A white fog curled and rose in front of Xiao Yan, shrouding his exceptionally serious face. He knew that this was the retaliation of the Little Fairy Doctor's 'Woeful Poison Body,' attempting to prevent him from completing the seal. Xiao Yan clearly understood that if he did not complete the seal at this moment, it was likely that the Little Fairy Doctor would end up following in the footsteps of those who had possessed the 'Woeful Poison Body' before her...

A ruthless expression flashed across Xiao Yan's eyes as the movement of his finger suddenly quickened. Numerous green-colored fire scars were swiftly formed under his finger.

His finger danced. In the end, many afterimages began to appear. Then, his finger paused abruptly and he nodded heavily. The fire scar was quietly drawn and a flawless seal formation formed.

A wisp of extremely faint stench broke through the obstruction of the Glazed Lotus Heart Flame and quietly entered Xiao Yan's nose the instant that the seal formation was completed.

The stench had just appeared when it was sensed by Xiao Yan. His

expression immediately changed. Hesitation flashed across his eyes before he ceased bothering about the poison vapor that had entered his body. The jade-green flame on his hand suddenly soared before landing gently on the smooth, flat abdomen of the Little Fairy Doctor, an abdomen that did not contain even a little fat. This point was the center of the seal formation. As long as he poured energy into this spot, he would be able to activate the seal!

Powerful hot energy followed Xiao Yan's hand and surged out. It instantly transformed into lines of energy that moved along the numerous fire scars that meandered all around. At this moment, the formation diagram on the Little Fairy Doctor appeared to have been activated as it emitted a luster.

"All Sky Fire Seal, The sky forms the shape, the fire forms the spirit. Seal!"

A cry was suddenly emitted from Xiao Yan's mouth. Immediately the light around the spot where Xiao Yan's hand was located became extremely bright!

Almost like it was aware that the seal was about to be completed, the 'Woeful Poison Body' went crazy. An extremely thick poisonous vapor rushed out of the pores all over the Little Fairy Doctor's body. The murky poison gas managed to break through Xiao Yan's defense even though he was using the Glazed Lotus Heart Flame to protect his body. The poison gas immediately entered his body through all of his pores...

Xiao Yan's expression became much dimmer when the poison gas entered his body. However, he still clenched his teeth and abruptly withdrew his hand. The intense light weakened and the many fire scars on the surface of the Little Fairy Doctor's body gradually disappeared, appearing as though they had merged with her body...

The poison gas within the Little Fairy Doctor's body ceased seeping out the moment the fire scars disappeared. The skin on her body gradually returned to its normal color. The 'Woeful Poison Body' that was about to erupt was once again sealed!

The Little Fairy Doctor suddenly opened her eyes the instant the ‘Woeful Poison Body’ was sealed. She opened her small mouth and a suction force surged out. The poison fog that permeated the room immediately began to fluctuate. After which, it transformed into an enormous air dragon that was swallowed by the Little Fairy Doctor.

A strange expression immediately surfaced on the Little Fairy Doctor’s face after the final thread of poison was absorbed into her body. A glint flickered deep within her eyes. Without realizing it, the Little Fairy Doctor’s aura had swiftly become stronger, appearing as though she had taken a tonic. Within a couple of minutes, she broke through the four star level and advanced to the five star level! If an ordinary elite Dou Zong were to see this speed, it was likely that the person would be completely stunned.

The eruption of the ‘Woeful Poison Body’ this time around had not only failed to control the Little Fairy Doctor, but had instead allowed her strength to significantly advance. It was really true, trouble and blessings appeared together. The ending was beyond anyone’s expectations.

The Little Fairy Doctor gently sighed in relief as she sensed her internal body gradually becoming calm. Her delicate hand moved and her clothes rushed over. She swiftly covered her perfect body. Only after doing all this did she turn her head and discover Xiao Yan had collapsed on the bed. Her pretty face became anxious as she hurriedly lifted him up, only to see Xiao Yan’s face being covered by a grayish gas.

“Has the poison invaded his body...”

The Little Fairy Doctor sighed in relief when she realized what had happened to Xiao Yan. She hesitated for a moment before a moving bright-redness surfaced on her face. She lowered her head slightly and her small mouth was gently imprinted on Xiao Yan’s lips. Threads of grayish gas gradually surged out of Xiao Yan’s body. The gas traveled between their mouths, being transferred back to the Little Fairy Doctor’s body.

The quiet, small room radiated the slight feeling of spring in the air...

Chapter 927: Refining the Fierce Spirit

When Xiao Yan woke from his unconscious state, his eyes landed on a pair of lovely grayish purple-coloured eyes. He only sighed in relief when he saw the clearness within them. He pulled his body up. He suddenly discovered that he had unknowingly laid down on the Little Fairy Doctor's bed and was able to sniff the special fragrance unique to a young female. Xiao Yan mind descended into his body and swept through it, only to discover that the poison gas had already completely vanished.

"I already helped you remove the poison vapor. There is no need for you to worry." The Little Fairy Doctor beside the bed used her hands to support her head as she watched him without moving. She involuntarily broke into a smile and spoke when she saw what Xiao Yan was doing, causing him to feel as though everything in front of him had brightened.

Xiao Yan smiled. His gaze swept over the Little Fairy Doctor's body as he said in surprise, "Your strength..." From his senses, the aura of the Little Fairy Doctor in front of him seemed to be much denser than before.

"The eruption of the 'Woeful Poison Body' released a lot of poison gas. Such poison gas might be harmful to all of you, but it is the greatest tonic to me. After absorbing all of it, my strength has also advanced a little." The Little Fairy Doctor softly explained.

Xiao Yan only came to a sudden understanding after hearing her explanation. He immediately smacked his mouth and exclaimed, "It is indeed worthy of being the 'Woeful Poison Body.' Such a method to raise one's strength is really something I have never heard of."

The Little Fairy Doctor warmly smiled. Her pretty eyes watched Xiao Yan, and her face immediately turned red again. Her originally snow-white skin appeared exceptionally white against the pink background. It was just like the white-snow in the north. Her mercury-like watery eyes seemed to hid some other emotion. She lowered her head and softly said, "It's all thanks to you this time around. If you had not been here, I'm afraid that I would have walked my last step."

“Why are you saying all this? If I wasn’t here, you would not have undone the ‘Woeful Poison Body’ seal so many times, and the eruption would not have been brought forward.” Xiao Yan shook his head as he rolled down from the bed. He clapped his hand, observed the Little Fairy Doctor with his eyes, and said, “The seal should have already been completed right?”

A bright-redness involuntarily surfaced on the Little Fairy Doctor’s face upon the mention of the seal. She gently inclined her somewhat skinny snow-white chin and said, “Yeah, I can sense that the ‘Woeful Poison Body’ has already been suppressed. According to the strength of the seal, it should not be a problem maintaining it for two to three years.”

Xiao Yan nodded and smiled as he said, “That’s good. Two to three years is sufficient for us to find the Sky Poison Dragon Scorpion Beast.”

The Little Fairy Doctor nodded.

“Let’s go. Let’s leave this place first. I think that First Elder and the others should be anxious from waiting...” Xiao Yan waved his hand and walked to the door. The Little Fairy Doctor obediently followed from behind.

Su Qian was pacing back and forth uneasily outside of the room. It had already been half a day since Xiao Yan had entered, but there was still not even the slightest activity. Due to him being afraid of the poison gas inside, he did not dare to randomly barge in.

However, the tightly shut door was slowly opened just when Su Qian’s face was filled with anxiety. A creaking sound caused his gaze to shoot over at the first moment. Only when he saw a black-robed, young man walking out of the room did he sigh in relief and appear as though he had been relieved of a great burden.

“Are you alright?”

Su Qian swiftly stepped forward. He sighed in relief when he saw that the two individuals were fine. However, his voice was somewhat worried as he asked.

Xiao Yan smiled and nodded. He raised his head and looked at the drifting grayish gas within the light curtain. The poison gas in this place might not be as dense as the fog within the house, but it would likely cause quite a great harm to the students if it was allowed to spread.

The Little Fairy Doctor by the side seemed to be aware of Xiao Yan's thoughts. Her hand was extended gently before it beckoned. A hurricane appeared within the light curtain from nowhere, sucking all the poison gas together before it transformed into a dense vapor pillar that was absorbed into the Little Fairy Doctor's body.

Su Qian involuntarily clicked his tongue in surprise as he watched the Little Fairy Doctor subdue this poison vapor by merely raising her hand. His gaze swept over her and an astonishment flashed through his eyes. He involuntarily cried out, "You have advanced?"

The Little Fairy Doctor nodded slightly as she watched Su Qian's astonished manner. She knew the reason for him to lose himself. After all, each star of advancement for an elite Dou Zong would mean a great increase in one's strength. An ordinary Dou Zong might have difficulty raising their strength by even a star even after a couple of years or even a full decade.

"Ugh, I am indeed old. This world still belongs to the young..." Su Qian sighed and shook his head. His tone was filled with envy.

"First Elder, please distribute this medicinal powder to those students who accidentally inhaled the poison gas. They should be fine after resting for a couple of days." The Little Fairy Doctor took out a jade bottle from her Storage Ring and handed it to Su Qian while speaking somewhat apologetically.

"Ke ke, it's alright. Just treat it as giving those little brats a little lesson. Otherwise, they would just rush forward if they see anything they are curious about in the future." Su Qian received the jade bottle and laughed heartily.

"First Elder, since everything is fine, why don't you remove the energy barrier first." Xiao Yan raised his head, looked at the energy barrier above,

and smiled as he gave a suggestion.

“Yeah, I think that your second brother should be extremely anxious from waiting outside.” Su Qian smiled. He waved his sleeves and an invisible ripple was emitted. Immediately, the energy light barrier that covered the courtyard shook slightly and gradually scattered.

The energy light barrier had just scattered when a couple of human figures hurriedly barged in. They only sighed in relief upon seeing that Xiao Yan and the other two were standing unharmed in the courtyard.

The people who had barged in were naturally Xiao Li, Zi Yan, and the others. The one who caused Xiao Yan to be a little surprised was a blue-clothed lady, Xin Lan from ‘Pan’s Gate.’

Xin Lan’s hand patted her voluminous chest upon seeing Xiao Yan. She said, “Big brother Xiao Yan, you are the helper that I have gained after much difficulty. Nothing must happen to you...”

Xiao Yan smiled when he heard this. He chatted with Xiao Li initially before turning his gaze to Xin Lan. He said, “Relax, I will naturally not go back on my promise to you. That’s right, when are you going to begin the journey to the Central Plains?”

Xin Lan mused for a moment and said, “Two months from now; I am currently refining a kind of medicinal pill which requires a little time.”

“Two months huh...”

Xiao Yan fondled his chin. Tian Huo zun-zhe still needed to refine the fierce spirit. Moreover, he had planned to try to refine the so-called ‘Sky Demon Puppet’ before he left. Of course, the most important thing was that he had to refine the ‘Heaven Soul Blood Bone Pill’ that he had promised Medusa before he left. After all, no one knew just how long he would need after he left. If there was really a situation on Medusa’s side... it was likely that she would not be able to wait for such a long time.

Moreover, given her character, the failure of Xiao Yan to keep his promise and hand over the medicinal pill might likely result in her furiously hating him for the rest of her life. Therefore, he definitely could

not delay this matter. Although it was somewhat difficult for Xiao Yan to refine a tier 7 medicinal pill with his current ability, he had to at least give it a try regardless of what happened. Looking at things this way, it seemed that two months was going to be really short.

“We won’t be late for the ‘Pill Gathering’ of the Pill Tower, will we?” Xiao Yan sighed softly in his heart before he appeared to have suddenly recalled something and quickly inquired. This was also something that he attached great importance to. Nothing must go wrong.

“Relax, there is still over two years time until this season’s ‘Pill Gathering.’ You will have sufficient preparation time when you arrive at the Central Plains.” Xin Lan smiled as she replied.

Xiao Yan sighed in relief in his heart when he heard that there was that much time remaining. He did not wish to rush to the Central Plains at great speed just to participate in the large scale ‘Pill Gathering’ where all sorts of people gathered without familiarizing himself with the area. Colliding around blindly would not benefit him.

“Since you are fine, I will rest assured. I still need to return to blend some medicinal ingredients. You are also a busy person. Let’s meet two months later...” Xin Lan did not stay any longer after seeing that Xiao Yan was fine. She gave him a saucy smile before turning around to leave the courtyard.

Xiao Yan exhaled gently as he watched Xin Lan’s disappearing back. It seemed that he needed to make full use of these two months...

On the second day after Xiao Yan had settled the Little Fairy Doctor’s matter, he once again entered the magma world under the ‘Blazing Sky Qi Refining Tower.’ He needed to help Tian Huo zun-zhe refine the fierce spirit, and he was going to attempt to refine a ‘Sky Demon Puppet.’

Despite a period of time having passed, the magma world was still dead quiet. It was difficult to imagine that this quiet world hid a strange race as well as a secret that could stir the entire Dou Qi continent...

When Xiao Yan had once again appeared in the cave he had created, Tian Huo zun-zhe also leaped out. At this moment, his figure was quite

blurry. Despite having been woken from his slumber with the ‘Soul Cultivating Saliva’ that Xiao Yan had used, his spiritual condition was far inferior when compared to the past.

“Xiao Yan, given my current condition, it will be difficult for me to completely suppress the fierce spirit. Hence, you will also need to lend me a hand.” When Tian Huo zun-zhe appeared, he spoke with a solemn expression.

“Old mister Yao, please rest assured that Xiao Yan will do all he can.” Xiao Yan cupped his hands together as he replied in a deep voice.

Tian Huo zun-zhe nodded. He slowly said, “Additionally, please lend me the ‘Fallen Heart Flame!’ I need to borrow its strength in order to refine the fierce spirit!”

Xiao Yan did not hesitate upon hearing this. He beckoned with his hand and a cluster of invisible flame appeared in front of him.

Seeing that Xiao Yan had taken out the Fallen Heart Flame without any hesitation, Tian Huo zun-zhe deeply studied him. He smiled as he said, “Little fellow, you really suit the old me’s tastes. The old me will remember all of the favors that you have given.”

Xiao Yan smiled, but did not refute his words. After having been in contact for a period of time, he also knew that Tian Huo zun-zhe seemed to value things like favors very greatly.

“Old mister Yao, please begin!”

Tian Huo zun-zhe nodded heavily. His face was filled with a solemn expression. He extended his hand and beckoned with it. After which, the Fallen Heart Flame slowly floated in front of him. He flicked his finger and the white-colored ring on Xiao Yan’s finger abruptly trembled. Immediately an unusually violent and fierce aura erupted from it!

Chapter 928: Refining the Sky Demon Puppet

A murky blood fog surged in all directions from the white-colored ring. It swiftly agglomerated into a blood-colored figure within the cave.

This figure had just appeared when an unusually dense stench spread out. However, the two people within the cave were not ordinary people. This kind of negative emotion did not successfully corrode their mind.

The fierce spirit had just appeared when it saw Xiao Yan and Tian Huo zun-zhe. Perhaps because it had been captured the last time it saw these people, but it actually did not pounce on them. Instead, it turned around, transformed into a blood shadow that wildly shot out of the cave. It appeared to be afraid of them and was actually attempting to flee.

“Hmph, you wish to escape?”

Tian Huo zun-zhe let out a cold snort upon seeing the actions of the fierce spirit. His hand was clenched and the Fallen Heart Flame in front of him swiftly spread out. It transformed into a fire web as it rushed out. Finally, it managed to seal the cave exit just before the blood figure reached it.

Fear flashed across the blood-colored eyes of the fierce spirit when it saw the invisible fire web. Although it lacked intelligence, its instincts told it that this invisible fire web in front of it would cause it great harm.

The rushing blood figure forcefully halted its charging body amid an ear-piercing screech. After which, it stilled its body at a spot only five feet from the fire web.

The body came to a stop, but before the blood figure could rejoice, Tian Huo zun-zhe waved his sleeves. One could watch as the fire web fell before turning into a something like a hungry wolf, charging forward. The web wrapped around the fierce spirit, which could not withdraw in time.

Chi! Chi!

The fire web had just made contact with the fierce spirit's body when it immediately emitted waves of white fog. A 'chi chi' sound repeatedly appeared. It was also accompanied by the all out struggle of the fierce spirit. Although it did not possess any intelligence, the Fallen Heart Flame could affect its spirit. It was difficult to avoid this kind of searing pain that originated in one's spirit.

Waves of viscous blood-colored fog surged from the fierce spirit's body as it struggled. After which, the fog collided with the surrounding invisible fire web. They began to fiercely and ruthlessly erode each other.

"Hmph!"

A cold expression flashed across Tian Huo zun-zhe's eyes when he saw the retaliation of the fierce spirit. His hand suddenly changed and the fire web began to slowly shrink. While this fire web was shrinking, the fierce spirit's body within it also became smaller.

"Xiao Yan, increase the strength of the Fallen Heart Flame!"

Tian Huo zun-zhe suddenly cried out as he stared at the shrinking fire web.

Xiao Yan, who had already been waiting for orders by the side, immediately nodded his head upon hearing this. He flicked his finger and a wave of Dou Qi shot out. Finally, it landed on the fire web. The Dou Qi was swiftly swallowed by the fire web. Following the fire web's consumption of Dou Qi, the invisible flame lingering on its surface became denser. On the other hand, the fierce spirit within repeatedly emitted a furious screech because of the grilling. No matter how intensely it struggled, it was too difficult to escape from the fire web's restraints.

"Continue to strengthen it!" Tian Huo zun-zhe glanced at the spirit that was still struggling and commanded in a deep voice.

Xiao Yan's expression was calm. His ten fingers flicked repeatedly and numerous Dou Qi pillars erupted. Finally, they completely merged with the fire web. With the addition of more Dou Qi, the temperature of the Fallen Heart Flame became frightening. In the end, the fierce spirit finally erupted amid a sharp miserable cry, and transformed into a viscous blood-

colored fog that drifted within the fire web.

Tian Huo zun-zhe sighed in relief upon seeing this scene. The seal on his hand changed and the fire web gradually scattered. It soon agglomerated into a ten-foot-large cauldron made of flames. The cluster of viscous blood-colored fog was stuck within the cauldron.

Surprise also flashed across Xiao Yan's eyes as he studied Tian Huo zun-zhe's ingenious method of agglomerating a flame cauldron. He was indeed worthy of previously being an elite Dou Zun. Xiao Yan admitted that his flame controlling method was far inferior to his. Tian Huo zun-zhe was really deserving of his name.

TL: Tian Huo – means sky fire

The temperature within the fire cauldron was extremely frightening. By being refined under that high temperature, the cluster of viscous blood fog slowly became pale. Xiao Yan knew that as long as the blood color within it was completely refined away, the fierce spirit would have been successfully refined into a cluster of extremely pure Spiritual Strength...

However, the process of such a refinement was somewhat slow. It was likely that one would have difficulty completely refining the fierce spirit at this speed without at least three to four days...

"Alright, next, I will need you to help me maintain this fire cauldron. The current me is unable to maintain the exhaustion of this fire cauldron." Tian Huo zun-zhe's face revealed a smile as he looked at the blood-colored fog, slowly being refined within the fire cauldron. After which, he smiled as he spoke to Xiao Yan.

"Aye, old mister Yao, you can just relax." Xiao Yan smiled and nodded. The flame was controlled by Tian Huo zun-zhe. All he needed to do was to provide enough Dou Qi to maneuver the Fallen Heart Flame. This did not drain too much of his mental strength.

Tian Huo zun-zhe also smiled and nodded when he heard this. After which, he slowly shut his eyes and sat cross-legged in the air. A thread of Spiritual Strength came out and controlled the flame within the fire cauldron to proceed with the refinement.

Xiao Yan once again poured in a wave of Dou Qi into the fire cauldron upon seeing Tian Huo zun-zhe shut his eyes. After which, he clenched his hand and an ordinary grayish-brown bamboo scroll appeared in his hand.

“Sky Demon Puppet.”

This scroll was naturally a treasure that Xiao Yan had obtained from raiding the Demon Flame Valley storehouse. The puppet skill that was recorded on it caused him to be very curious.

Xiao Yan's finger slowly flipped open the scroll. Those words written on it began to enter Xiao Yan's head one at a time before leaving behind a deep memory that was difficult to remove.

The cave slowly descended into silence. Tian Huo zun-zhe was focusing his attention on the flame that was refining the fierce spirit while Xiao Yan had thrown his attention to the mysterious world that was recorded within the bamboo scroll.

This quiet atmosphere continued for around an hour or so before Xiao Yan recovered from Tian Huo zun-zhe's urging voice. He immediately gave an embarrassed smile and hurriedly summoned a wave of Dou Qi to throw into the fire cauldron.

After this one hour of study, Xiao Yan also gained some understanding of this 'Sky Demon Puppet.' If one wanted to refine this thing, one would have to possess the three key ingredients written in the introduction: a corpse, a Monster Core, and a spirit. Of course, other than these, one would require some special metallic materials in order to make the puppet's body even tougher.

Xiao Yan tapped the bamboo scroll softly on his arm. He gradually descended deep into thought. He was basically in possession of all of these things. For a corpse, he had Yun Shan's and the Old Ground Demon Ghost's body. For a Monster Core, the rank 7 fire affinity Monster Core should be able to do the trick. For a spirit, the Protector Tie from the 'Hall of Souls' he had obtained from the Chu Yun Empire back then was the best replacement. Xiao Yan also possessed some special metallic materials in his Storage Ring. Because he was an alchemist, it was his habit to

collect various things.

A cold glint suddenly flashed across Xiao Yan's eyes as he thought of about spirits. He shook his hand and a jade bottle with a faint invisible flame covering its mouth appeared in his hand. There was a thread of spiritual ripple faintly seeping out from it.

Xiao Yan's finger rubbed the bottle's mouth and eliminated the layer of flame. He kept his eyes shut and a Spiritual Strength carried a voice that was transmitted into the jade bottle.

"Han Feng, do you know the place where the 'Hall of Souls' has imprisoned teacher?"

"Ha ha, Xiao Yan, do you wish to rescue that old fellow who will not die? Stop dreaming. This little ability of yours is like an ant if you were to meet the true experts from the 'Hall of Souls.' Hee hee, if you really wish to know, you can let me out and beg me properly. Perhaps, I might suddenly be merciful and reveal a little information to you!" An arrogant laugh sounded from the jade bottle.

Xiao Yan's face remained indifferent. He did not waste his breath. With a flick of his finger, a wisp of jade-green flame entered the jade bottle. Soon a miserable ear-piercing scream was transmitted from the jade bottle.

"Stop burning. What do you want to know? We can discuss the matter slowly!"

Xiao Yan ignored the terrified cry within the jade bottle. With a wipe of his finger, a thin flame once again sealed the bottle's mouth. He then assessed the jade bottle before putting it back into his Storage Ring. When dealing with such a person, it would be easier to talk if he was allowed to suffer a little.

Xiao Yan glanced at the fire cauldron after doing all this. The viscous blood fog within it had paled quite significantly. Clearly, the refinement was progressing quite well.

Xiao Yan's gaze shifted away from the fire cauldron. He played with the

bamboo scroll on his hand, hesitated for a moment, and stored it within his Storage Ring. Currently, he still needed to take care of the fire cauldron. Hence, it was not the best time to refine other things. It would not be too late to wait until after he had completely refined the fierce spirit before starting.

Xiao Yan ceased hesitating after having made his decision within his heart. He exhaled a gentle breath, sat cross-legged, and began to absorb energy to replenish the exhaustion within his body.

...

Three days of quiet refinement passed by in a flash...

On this day, the two people in the cave who had their eyes shut opened them together without any prior agreement. Their gazes were thrown to the fire cauldron floating in the air. Both of them sensed that the viscous blood-colored fog had completely scattered. Replacing it was a cluster of chaotic vapor. Xiao Yan sensed an extremely dense Spiritual Strength in that vapor.

“It has finally been successfully refined...”

An excited expression flashed across Tian Huo zun-zhe’s eyes as he stared at the invisible gas. He moved his hand and the fire cauldron collapsed. It immediately transformed into a cluster of invisible flame, that rushed to Xiao Yan before entering his body.

That cluster of chaotic gas was swallowed by Tian Huo zun-zhe after it approached him. His figure then shook and transformed into a white glow that entered the white-colored ring.

“Ha ha, Xiao Yan, words cannot thank such a great favor. The old me will come and return this favor after completely absorbing this Spiritual Strength. Additionally, the time I need for this absorption might be somewhat long. You should be more careful.”

Xiao Yan also smiled when he heard Tian Huo zun-zhe’s laughter. He nodded slightly and lifted his head to look at the empty cave. He laughed softly, “In that case, I shall refine the ‘Sky Demon Puppet’...”

Chapter 929: Refinement

The night sky was covered in the light of the stars. The outdoors were quiet. Besides the occasional croak of a frog, everything was completely silent. A cold wind convoluted the interior of an empty cave while Xiao Yan sat cross-legged on an enormous rock within the cave. His expression was solemn. A moment later, he waved his hand and two items rushed out of his Storage Ring. These items landed heavily on the ground, stirring up some dust.

Two corpses that had been frozen appeared on the ground. Xiao Yan was not unfamiliar with these two corpses. They were Yun Shan and the Old Ground Demon Ghost...

Xiao Yan's gaze slowly swept across the faces of these two corpses, that had been maintained with the expression that they . Finally, his gaze paused on the white-robed Yun Shan. Xiao Yan finally let out a sigh a long time later. After so many years, Xiao Yan's hatred had gradually reduced following the disbanding of the Misty Cloud Sect. Moreover, its miserable fate was barely able to make up for what it did to the Xiao clan.

When comparing the two corpses, Yun Shan's strength was around that of a two to three star Dou Zong before he died while the Old Ground Demon Ghost had the strength of a seven star Dou Zong. If one were to compare which corpse to use to refine the 'Sky Demon Puppet,' the success rate of the latter might be a little higher. Moreover, Xiao Yan did not wish for something with Yun Shan's appearance to follow beside him even if that thing was merely a puppet with Yun Shan's face...

Xiao Yan's gaze paused on Yun Shan's face. His mind was somewhat absent. A graceful and proud figure that emitted a noble aura vaguely surfaced within his mind along with the cloud-white dress that gently drifted on the figure, highlighting the figures moving curves.

"Yun Yun..."

A low muttering sound was suddenly emitted from Xiao Yan's mouth. His fist was involuntarily clenched as he recalled her complicated gaze

when she was about to leave back then.

Seventy percent was desolation within those eyes, ten percent was helplessness, ten percent was sadness from giving up and there was a faint amount of hatred. She seemed to still take his viciousness to heart. He had cruelly shattered everything she had. It was this little thread of hatred that spurred her to leave the place she had lived for so many years... perhaps from the way she saw it, that place was a place of sadness. After leaving, it would be extremely difficult for her to return.

Xiao Yan's fist under his sleeves tightened. He undeniably possessed faint feelings to this woman, the first person to have skin contact with him back when he was training outside. All that had happened in that cave was far too great a blow to his youthfulness. It was from that moment on that he truly understood what a woman was. He was no longer a boy; he had transformed into a true man. Xiao Yan knew that he would never be able to forget her for the rest of his life. All of this seemed to be like a searing imprint that caused him to be unable to forget her.

The meeting of the two was quite moving. However, it seemed to have ended in misery. It was impossible for Xiao Yan to forgive what the Misty Cloud Sect and Yun Shan had done to the Xiao clan. Hence, being the Misty Cloud Sect's leader, she had to stand against Xiao Yan even if the one who had ended up miserably injured was her. This was an ending that had already predetermined from the start...

A soft sigh slowly reverberated within the cave. Xiao Yan waved his hand and returned Yun Shan's corpse to his Storage Ring. He was unwilling to use his body to refine the 'Sky Demon Puppet.' Even he was unable to figure out what was the actual reason was. All he wanted to prevent was the vague thought of piercing a bloody knife into the weak heart of a woman, covered in injuries.

There had been no news of Yun Yun ever since she left the Jia Ma Empire. The Dou Qi continent was enormous. Attempting to look for a person in the vast sea of people was equivalent to finding a needle in a haystack. However, Xiao Yan had a vague feeling that he might be able to meet her again in the Central Plains...

Although this feeling was without any reason, Xiao Yan still chose to believe it. Hence, he had stored away Yun Shan's corpse. He did not wish to unexpectedly run into her and have her not want to see him because of the puppet following him...

"Teacher, once this disciple has rescued you, this disciple will personally help you find an even stronger body."

Xiao Yan quietly muttered within his heart. His eyes also gradually became clear as a stern expression quietly appeared.

Xiao Yan clenched his hand and the jade-green flame once again surged out. He flicked his finger and the flame rushed out, and wrapped around the Old Ground Demon Ghost's corpse. The high temperature swiftly melted the layer of ice that covered the body.

The clothes of the Old Ground Demon Ghost turned to powder after the ice melted. The hot temperature caused the corpse to turn fiery-red. Following this repeated grilling, threads of faint black air escaped from the corpse and were incinerated by the jade-green flame into nothingness.

This kind of black gas was a kind of corpse vapor. It contained the will of the owner when he was still alive. If this black gas was not completely expelled, other spirits would find it difficult to merge with the body. Moreover, the refinement of the 'Sky Demon Puppet' needed the body, Monster Core, and spirit to be seamlessly merged. Hence, this corpse vapor needed to be removed.

The temperature of the Heart Flame was precisely controlled by Xiao Yan. The flame was able to force out the corpse vapor but not burn the body.

Just refining the physical body took up three hours of Xiao Yan's time. Only then was the corpse vapor within the corpse completely expelled.

Xiao Yan sighed in relief when the final thread of corpse vapor left the body. He immediately flicked his finger and two Dou Qi storms shot out, opening a fist-sized hole in the chest and the forehead of the corpse.

No fresh blood flowed out of the holes because all of the blood had been

vaporized during the refinement of the corpse. This was a small step in refining the 'Sky Demon Puppet.'

At this moment, the corpse of the Old Ground Demon Ghost had also been struck by a couple of circles. The skin of his body was grayish-white with a cold appearance. The skin tightly adhered to its shriveled muscles. His hands had also become exceptionally long, appearing like sharp daggers.

Xiao Yan refined this corpse according to what was written on the bamboo scroll. After which, he extended his hand and beckoned. The fiery-red Monster Core appeared out of nowhere, and fell into the small hole on the corpse's chest. After completing all this, Xiao Yan's pulled out another jade bottle with a cold expression. The jade bottle was faintly emitting a powerful spiritual ripple.

"Xiao Yan, what does it take for you to let off the old me?" A furious and vicious roar was transmitted from the jade bottle the moment it appeared.

"Protector Tie, there is no need to be anxious. I will let you out immediately..." The corner of Xiao Yan's mouth was lifted into a cold smile. He clenched his hand and the jade bottle suddenly shattered, revealing a black-colored spirit. The spirit had just come out when it fled toward the cave's exit without caring about anything else. However, Xiao Yan, who was prepared, caught it.

The black-colored spirit struggled wildly as curses were emitted from his mouth. His tone was also filled with fear and craziness. Clearly, Protector Tie was aware of what was going to happen. Hence, he unleashed his final strength amid his despair.

Xiao Yan's gaze was dense as he stared at Protector Tie's soul that was trying its best to struggle away. The corner of his mouth revealed a cold smile. After which, he increased his strength and the flame in his hand surged. It wrapped around Protector Tie. Sharp miserable cries and incomparably vicious curses immediately resounded within the cave.

Xiao Yan appeared to have failed to hear the vicious curses. He merely continued to increase the temperature of the flame. With this high

temperature refinement, Protector Tie, who had been sealed for a long time, lost the intelligence hidden within his soul. At this moment, his intelligence had completely vanished...

Xiao Yan glanced at the cluster of black fog in his hand after having refined Protector Tie's awareness. He gently tossed it and the black fog transformed into a swirling gas that entered the hole in the corpse's head in a lightning-like manner.

The tightly shut eyes of the Old Ground Demon Ghost suddenly opened after the insertion of this intelligence. His eyes were filled with a dark-black color...

Xiao Yan was not surprised by this scene. He flicked his ten fingers and numerous metallic objects, containing strange lusters, shot from his Storage Ring. They steadily drifted in the air in front of him.

Xiao Yan nodded slightly upon inspecting the many strange metals floating in the air. He clenched his hand and the jade-green flame was spat out of his palm like a fire pillar. A suction force surged out and sucked the metals in...

Under the refinement of the high temperature of the Glazed Lotus Heart Flame, these strange metals gradually showed traces of melting. However, they weren't melting just yet.

At this moment, Xiao Yan split his attention in half. On one hand, he was controlling the flame to refine the corpse at a constant temperature. On the other, he used an extremely high temperature to refine the strange metals. The high and low flame temperatures required an extremely difficult level of flame control. However, it was fortunate that Xiao Yan had already practiced the 'Five Ring Flame Expelling Skill.' Hence, he did not end up scrambling around.

The two refinements required a lot of time, especially the corpse refinement. The refinement needed to reach a certain point in order to force the spirit and the Monster Core, placed within the corpse, to perfectly merge...

Moreover, Xiao Yan knew that this was not a task that he could

complete within a short period of time. Hence, Xiao Yan, seated cross-legged on an enormous rock, gradually shut his eyes and quietly waited for the moment when the perfect merger was achieved.

This wait continued for seven days. The strange metals had been completely refined during these seven days. They had transformed into a dark-gold-colored liquid. It slowly flowed within the flame, emitting an unknown luster.

The metal refinement had already finished. However, the perfect merger of the body, spirit, and Monster Core still had not arrived. Nevertheless, Xiao Yan did not feel remotely frustrated because of this.

Chapter 930: Successful Refinement!

Xiao Yan's tightly shut eyes were suddenly opened within the cave. A joy flashed in his eyes. Both of his hands immediately formed a strange seal and a somewhat unusual cry was emitted from his mouth.

The Old Ground Demon Ghost's body trembled suddenly following the emission of this cry. Immediately, the spirit that lingered in its head seemed to have been forcefully shattered by something invisible. It transformed into a countless number of light spots that densely scattered through every part of its body. The instant the spirit turned into light spots, the Monster Core that was in the body's chest emitted a slight buzzing sound. Soon wild, violent energy surged out like rising lake water. Finally, the energy moved along the body's veins like it was being circulated.

The grayish-white color on the surface of the body became denser following this change in the spirit and the Monster Core. The size of the entire body was also slowly shrinking. A majestic aura that was void of any emotion slowly spread from the corpse.

Xiao Yan's eyes also brightened a little as he sensed this aura that could match a four or five star Dou Zong. He forcefully controlled the slight excitement within his heart. With a move of his hand, the cluster of dark-gold liquid floating in front of him slowly drifted out. Finally, it was scattered onto the ice-cold corpse.

Chi! Chi!

The liquid metal of extremely high temperature landed on the corpse and immediately formed waves of white fog, a burning smell was emitted. However, the skin in contact with the liquid did not show any signs of being damaged. After the refinement earlier, the strength of the puppet's body had already reached a powerful level.

Spiritual strength swept over this puppet like floodwater while the dark-gold solution slowly wormed its way all over the body. In an instant, smelly white fog smoke was expanding from the puppet's body. The 'chi

chi' sound that was emitted when the high temperature made contact with one's skin caused one's pores to stand.

The grayish-white color was replaced by a dark-gold color when the liquid completely spread over the puppet. That flickering gold light gave one the strange feeling of it being hard.

Xiao Yan's gaze glanced at the puppet covered by the liquid mixture. He let out a gentle breath. Immediately, he waved his sleeves and the jade green flame once again surged out. After which, it completely wrapped around the puppet. A frighteningly high temperature slowly seeped out...

The dark-gold-colored liquid began to slowly encroach into the puppet's skin following the repeated high temperature grilling. With the increasing intensity of this encroachment, the color of the puppet's body gradually turned a dark-green. It appeared just like a bronze piece at a glance.

Xiao Yan's brows were knit. He studied the puppet's color as it turned darker. He said, "It is merely a bronze color?"

It was recorded in the bamboo scroll that the 'Sky Demon Puppet' was divided into three categories, Sky, Earth, and Man. The Sky category was gold, the Earth category was silver, while the Man category was bronze. The color that this puppet currently displayed clearly indicated that it belonged to the last category among the three. No wonder Xiao Yan was somewhat dissatisfied.

Although Xiao Yan felt somewhat disappointed in his heart, he did not cease the flame's grilling immediately. A frighteningly high temperature continued to seep out, allowing the dark-gold mixture to absorb into the skin and the shriveled muscles.

This so-called 'Sky Demon Puppet' refining method used these metal materials to reform the strength of the body. If someone did this while alive, it was likely that he would have died with his body being blasted apart. However, this puppet was able to completely ignore such an intense pain by not having any senses. Hence, if it was successfully refined, the puppet, which did not know any Dou Techniques, would still possess a physical body that was a perfect killing weapon...

A silver glow suddenly flashed over the skin, that contained the faint-green color, as the dark-gold solution was gradually soaked up by the puppet...

The silver glow that had suddenly appeared was not ignored by Xiao Yan. His eyes immediately stared at the puppet's body and an excitement quietly rose in his heart.

An increasing number of silver glows began to flash and appear while Xiao Yan's eyes remained fixated on it, not blinking. The dark-bronze color on the puppet's body slowly dispersed.

Following the appearance of the silver glow, the aura that was spreading out of the puppet was gradually increasing!

This transformation took around ten plus seconds. After which, the dark-bronze puppet turned into a shiny-silver one. However, there was still a little bronze flickering within the silver light. Nevertheless, it could be ignored when compared to the large silver glow...

When the silver glow reached its peak, it suddenly came to a stop. The rising aura also abruptly halted. Immediately the silver glow dimmed and all the light seemed to enter the puppet. Although the silver glow had dimmed, Xiao Yan sensed that the aura of the puppet had not been reduced at all. Clearly, the scattering of this kind of silver light was a small tactic that prevented the puppet from being too eye-catching.

The puppet slowly stood up within the jade-green flame. After which, it floated in the air without borrowing any force to support it. It did not move even a little and its eyes were two empty black holes.

Xiao Yan gently bit the tip of his tongue. A drop of fresh blood that contained some Spiritual Strength drifted out. It accurately landed on the forehead of the puppet and slowly penetrated its body. In the end, it formed a thumb-sized dark-red blood spot.

After this drop of blood entered the puppet's head without any resistance and imprinted a mark that could not be removed, the empty black eyes of the puppet slowly gained a barely present life. It turned its somewhat stiff neck, lowered its head, and looked at Xiao Yan seated

cross-legged on an enormous rock. After which, its leg landed on the ground as it knelt with one knee. Its head slowly lowered in the direction of Xiao Yan.

Xiao Yan's eyes were shut. When the spiritual blood had entered the puppet's forehead earlier, he had clearly sensed that his spirit seemed to have been separated into two. One of them controlled his actual body while the other controlled this puppet in front of him... at this moment, he felt a kind of vaguely present feeling. The puppet in front would obey all of his orders. Even if that order were to have it attack Xiao Yan himself, it was likely that it would attack without hesitation.

With the spiritual seal imprinted on it, this puppet would become Xiao Yan's best bodyguard because it could never possess any thoughts of betraying its master.

Xiao Yan's gaze contained a fiery heat as it stared at this Sky Demon Puppet who knelt with one knee on the ground. Oh... perhaps it was more appropriate to call it an Earth Demon Puppet because this puppet had not reached the highest level recorded in the bamboo scroll.

Even though it was merely an Earth Demon Puppet, Xiao Yan was still quite satisfied. He could sense that the strength of this Earth Demon Puppet was likely not weaker than a five or six star Dou Zong.

Xiao Yan's gaze swept over the Earth Demon Puppet for a moment before he suddenly laughed. His body moved and rushed out of the cave. The Earth Demon Puppet followed close behind him. Perhaps it was because of a lack of familiarization, but each time one of its feet landed, it would cause a couple of spider-web-like cracks to spread across the ground. Xiao Yan was stunned by the powerful force with which it walked.

Xiao Yan flapped his bone wings and floated in the air above the magma sea. The Earth Demon Puppet also stood in the empty air beside him without any expression.

"Punch this." Xiao Yan's finger pointed at the magma sea below and ordered out loud.

A red glow appeared in the Earth Demon Puppet's eyes the moment

Xiao Yan's voice sounded. The puppet's fist tightened before it was punched straight out!

“Chi!”

The fist was thrown forward and the space in front of the Earth Demon Puppet began to distort. The air seemed to have formed an arc with the fist at the middle. A-hundred-foot-large wall of compressed air appeared to have wrapped around the frontmost portion of the arc. Finally, it was like a cannonball, carrying an ear-piercing ring as powerful wind ripples shot out!

“Bang!”

The cannonball of air violently smashed into the magma. Immediately, a soul-stirring sound resounded over this world. As the magma surged, an enormous magma wave churned and appeared. It violently smashed against the mountain wall, causing the deep hole to tremble...

The strength of its fist was actually this frightening!

A shocked feeling flashed across Xiao Yan's eyes when he saw the enormous magma fire wave that had been created. The fist earlier would definitely be able to cause some of the elite one to two star Dou Zongs to be seriously injured! If that person was even unluckier, it was not impossible for them to be killed from just one punch!

This Sky Demon Puppet was indeed worthy of being a killing weapon that was passed down from ancient times. Such a powerful killing force fit the word 'terrifying' perfectly.

Moreover, this current puppet of Xiao Yan's had only reached the level of an Earth Demon Puppet. Just how powerful was the Sky Demon Puppet?

A heat erupted within Xiao Yan's eyes as he thought until this point. However, he helplessly shook his head. Just refining this Earth Demon Puppet had exhausted a corpse of a seven star Dou Zong, a rank 7 Monster Core, and an elite Dou Zong's spirit. If he wanted to refine a Sky Demon Puppet, would he not require the corpse of an elite Dou Zun, a rank 8

Monster Core, and a Dou Zun's spirit?

Xiao Yan wiped the cold sweat off his face. He wisely tossed all of these unrealistic thoughts out of his head. With a wave of his sleeves, he stored the Earth Demon Puppet into his Storage Ring. A Storage Ring cannot keep any living being alive. However, the Earth Demon Puppet was merely a puppet that did not even possess the slightest consciousness.

“The Earth Demon Puppet has already been successfully refined. Next, I will have to refine the Heaven Soul Blood Bone Pill...”

Xiao Yan softly sighed as he rubbed the Storage Ring. Honestly speaking, even he was not confident in refining a tier 7 medicinal pill...

Chapter 931: Big Commotion

Xiao Yan did not hurry to begin refining the Heaven Soul Blood Bone Pill after coming out of the magma world. A tier 7 medicinal pill was not something of an ordinary tier. With his current strength, it was likely that his chances would not be higher than a fifty percent success rate even in peak condition and with the help of a 'Heavenly Flame.' His weary condition after having refined the Earth Demon Puppet made those odds even worse.

Moreover, Xiao Yan had yet to gather all of the medicinal ingredients that were needed to refine the Heaven Soul Blood Bone Pill. Additionally, the medicinal pill refinement this time around was definitely not something that could be successfully accomplished on the first attempt. Hence, Xiao Yan needed to prepare enough medicinal ingredients to avoid the embarrassing situation of running out of medicinal ingredients.

Xiao Yan did not spend much effort on the matter of searching for medicinal ingredients. After giving Xiao Li a list of medicinal ingredient names, he maneuvered the strength of Xiao Gate to swiftly search for them. This kind of large scale searching was much more efficient compared to Xiao Yan searching by himself.

Xiao Yan had become much more relaxed after leaving the matter of finding medicinal ingredients to Xiao Li. He would occasionally roam the Inner Academy and give pointers to some members of 'Pan's Gate.' After which, he spent the remaining time training quietly, hoping he would return to his peak condition as soon as possible.

Xiao Yan waited for nearly ten days. During these ten days, Xiao Li finally managed to gather all of the medicinal ingredients that Xiao Yan required after utilizing an enormous amount of manpower. The number of medicinal ingredients also caused Xiao Yan to be extremely happy.

On the third day after these medicinal ingredients were delivered to Xiao Yan's hands, he, while training within a quiet room, slowly opened his eyes. The shut chamber suddenly rang with the sound of whistling wind

after he opened his eyes. There was even the deep sound of thunder within the wind whistle...

An invisible strength caused Xiao Yan's robes to expand and flutter. His white-colored outer clothes had also moved without the presence of any wind. A glow faintly flickered within Xiao Yan's dark-black eyes. The corner of his mouth revealed a slight smile.

At this moment, Xiao Yan seemed to have reached the best condition he had ever been in since he had advanced to a six star Dou Huang!

"It is time..."

A low mutter was transmitted from Xiao Yan's mouth. His body slowly stood up. His figure was covered in a white-colored windbreaker, causing him to appear extremely tall. He raised his head and softly muttered, "In that case, we will begin." The rushing sound of thunder broke through the air, ruining the quiet atmosphere of the room. Xiao Yan's body had gradually turned blurry.

His figure became blurrier. A moment later, it disappeared in a strange manner...

There were stairs made of rocks somewhere in the middle of the Inner Academy. At the top of the rock stairs was a small platform that could only accommodate two people sitting cross-legged. This place was the tallest part of the Inner Academy. Ordinary students were forbidden from entering it.

If one were to raise one's head while in the Inner Academy to look at this spot, one would see a small platform supported only by a thin staircase made out of rocks. One could view the entire Inner Academy by standing on this platform. Similarly, this place could be seen by everyone within the Inner Academy...

The stairs and the platform had been built a very long time ago. According to the First Elder, this place was where the Headmaster used to train. Hence, ordinary students were forbidden from climbing it. However, Su Qian loaned it to Xiao Yan the moment he heard that Xiao Yan wanted to attempt refining a tier 7 medicinal pill.

This place was naturally not as ordinary as it looked, especially since it had been used by the mysterious headmaster as a training area. A faint spatial ripple that was difficult to discover permeated through the air around the rock platform. These spatial ripples were extremely unique. They were just like a magnet that sucked in all the surrounding natural energy.

The effects of training in this spot were quite great. Additionally, the safety of the platform was very high with the vaguely visible spatial ripple acting as protection. Hence, those within the Inner Academy who possessed the qualification to train in this place were so few they could be counted on one's hand.

At this moment, the faint muffled sound of thunder appeared on the rock platform that had been left quiet for a long time. A figure rushed over like lightning. Finally, the figure appeared on the rock platform. After which, he sat cross-legged on it.

The one who had appeared was naturally Xiao Yan, who had exited the quiet chamber. At this moment, he was in his peak condition. Powerful Dou Qi surrounded his body. Under its might, a majestic feeling was formed. This kind of feeling was something that even some of the experts at the peak of the Dou Huang class had difficulty producing.

With Xiao Yan's current condition, he appeared like a light surrounded by darkness, which was extremely eye-catching. Hence, he had just appeared when numerous figures began to swiftly fly over from all parts of the Inner Academy. They quickly rushed over. Finally, they paused a hundred meters away and watched Xiao Yan in the distance.

A couple of figures also rushed over after these Elders. Finally, these figures appeared in the sky. All the Elders hurriedly gave their greetings when they saw who they were.

The only person who could be treated with such respect by these Inner Academy Elders was Su Qian. At this moment, his eyes were narrowed as he studied Xiao Yan from a distance. A smile also flashed across his face as he sensed the fluctuating Dou Qi around his body. He turned his head

and smiled as he said to the Little Fairy Doctor beside him, “Looks like this little fellow has put in a lot of effort for this day...”

The Little Fairy Doctor nodded. Her gaze looked at the densely packed human figures below, causing her to involuntarily knit her brows. She said, “Will refining a pill in such a place disturb him?”

“Ke ke, relax. A spatial ripple that was placed by the headmaster back then is present around the rock platform. It is extremely difficult for someone outside to disturb him. Moreover, the reason I asked him to refine the medicinal pill here because of the unusual natural phenomenon that occurs with the birth of a tier 7 medicinal pill. It might even be accompanied by Pill Lightning. The surrounding spatial design of the rock platform might help him a little when the time comes...” Su Qian waved his hand and smiled as he explained.

The Little Fairy Doctor slightly nodded after hearing his explanation. She did not say anything else as her grayish-purple eyes found Xiao Yan.

The sudden appearance of so many Inner Academy Elders in the sky naturally caused a commotion within the entire Inner Academy. A countless number of gazes glanced in the direction they were facing before finally seeing a black-robed, young man sitting cross-legged on the rock platform. All sorts of noise immediately erupted within the Inner Academy.

“Isn’t that Senior Xiao Yan? Why would he appear there?”

“Recently, I heard news from a member of ‘Pan’s Gate’ saying that Senior Xiao Yan seemed to be planning on refining a high tier medicinal pill...”

“Is he really refining a medicinal pill? I have long heard that Senior Xiao Yan is not only very strong, but he is also a tier 6 alchemist. If I can see him refining a medicinal pill today, hee hee, I would have the capital to brag to my clan when I return in the future.”

As many private conversations spread across the Inner Academy like a wave, an increasing number of students put aside the things they wished to do. Instead, they ran out of their rooms. After which, they came to a

spacious region, raised their heads, and looked toward the rock platform in the distance. Some fear and respect flashed across their eyes as they looked at the somewhat skinny black-colored figure. After the intense battle between him and the Old Ground Demon Ghost, the position of Xiao Yan within the hearts of these Inner Academy students was something that even some Elders could not match.

Quite a number of human figures were standing on a tall pavilion not far away from the rock platform. All of these people were wearing a similar badge on their chest. They were surprisingly members of 'Pan's Gate.'

Wu Hao, Hu Jia, Xiao Yu, Xin Lan, and the other leaders stood around the leader's spot, looking at Xiao Yan. They knew more about the matter of Xiao Yan refining a high level pill than the rest of the students. A tier 7 medicinal pill; a tier that caused one's heart to quiver involuntarily. Such a medicinal pill rarely appeared even in the 'Black-Corner Region.' An alchemist who could refine a tier 7 medicinal pill had not appeared in the 'Black-Corner Region' for quite a number of years...

Tier 7, a medicinal pill of this tier could already be ranked at the peak among the medicinal pills. Even if it were to be placed within the Central Plains where the strong gathered, it would also create a large commotion. The tier 7 level possessed the qualification to be snatched by some of the old demons in the Dou Zong class...

"This fellow is restless even though he is about to leave. This gathering today is likely the biggest one in the history of the Inner Academy..." Wu Hao lowered his head and glanced at the area below. At this moment, every part of the Inner Academy with an empty space was filled with black masses of human figures, and a countless number of gazes gathered on the black-robed, young man on the rock platform.

"However, if he really does succeed, he will likely be the strongest student in the history of the Jia Nan Academy ever since its founding..." Xiao Yu smiled slightly. Her pretty eyes contained a glow as she stared at the skinny figure. It was difficult to imagine that the youth who had been given the title of trash by the clan back then was currently sitting in the

most glorious spot within the Jia Nan Academy...

“Ever since the Jia Nan Academy was founded, there were two people who advanced to the Dou Huang class before they graduated. There was one person who advanced to the Dou Zong class. They are not an ordinary human being and had been blessed with an exceptional training talent. It was only due to this that he ended up advancing. However, if Xiao Yan were to be able to successfully refine a tier 7 medicinal pill, he would be able to surpass him...” Hu Jia laughed. She looked at Xiao Yan and said, “This fellow is indeed very outstanding. Now, even I involuntarily feel my heart being moved. No wonder someone as talented as Xun Er would have her heart taken by him.”

Xin Lan, who was wearing blue clothes, stood beside Hu Jia and smiled sweetly. Her eyes looked to the rock platform as she grabbed her hands to tightly suppress her emotions. Her heart was extremely excited. If Xiao Yan was able to refine a tier 7 medicinal pill, his potential would be quite terrifying. After all, an alchemist of such an age who could refine a tier 7 medicinal pill was an existence as rare as phoenix feathers and unicorn horns even in the Central Plains...

The current Xiao Yan was unaware of just what kind of big commotion had been created because of his appearance. At this moment, his mind was completely focused. External distractions had great difficulty interrupting him even a little.

“Hu...”

A breath that carried some heat seeped out of Xiao Yan’s nose. An extremely solemn expression flashed in his eyes. Both of his hands moved and an enormous bright-red medicinal cauldron suddenly appeared. It carried a ‘clang clang’ sound as it landed on the rock platform!

The most difficult pill refinement Xiao Yan had ever attempted, since becoming an alchemist, had officially begun!

Chapter 932: Refining The Heaven Soul Blood Bone Pill

The crimson medicinal cauldron, covered in beast drawings, landed heavily on the rock platform. That heavy feeling nearly caused the rock platform to shake.

Xiao Yan inhaled a deep breath of air as he looked at the medicinal cauldron in front of him. He opened his mouth and a cluster of jade-green flames was spat out. With a flick of his finger, the flame carried a beautiful tail that barged into the medicinal cauldron. It immediately erupted once inside. Fierce flames repeatedly churned within the medicinal cauldron. The increasing temperature caused this... place to gradually grow hotter.

Xiao Yan waved his sleeves as the flame rose. Medicinal ingredients immediately began to drift out of his Storage Ring one after another. They surfaced in the air above the rock platform under the cover of his Dou Qi. They appeared like tiny light clusters that seemed very beautiful when looked at from below.

“Heaven Soul Blood Bone Pill, tier 7 medicinal pill. It has the shocking miraculous effect of improving one’s constitution and raising one’s training talent. The ingredients needed to refine it are extremely troublesome. There are around seventy-seven of them with four main ingredients. The four are Dragon Blood Ganoderma, Bone Spirit Fruit, Mysterious Sky Green Vine, and the essence blood of a rank 7 or higher Magical Beast. Each of these four ingredients are extremely rare and precious things. It was quite difficult to find them. Moreover, the refining method is harsh and requires one to pay special attention...”

The method to refine the Heaven Soul Blood Bone Pill slowly surfaced within Xiao Yan’s mind. Some of the critical parameters were also imprinted into Xiao Yan’s mind without a single word missing.

Seventy-seven refining ingredients. It was the first time that Xiao Yan had seen a pill that required such a number of medicinal ingredients. Even

the ingredients needed for the Ground Spirit Pill that Yao Lao had refined for the purpose of subduing the Fallen Heart Flame did not reach this number. From it, one could tell that this Heaven Soul Blood Bone Pill was extremely difficult to refine. It likely even exceeded the difficulty of the Ground Spirit Pill...

These confused thoughts flashed across Xiao Yan's heart only to be expelled by him moments later. He raised his head, sensed the temperature within the medicinal cauldron, and nodded. His finger beckoned and one could see the fiercely burning jade-green flame within the medicinal cauldron immediately began to weaken.

Xiao Yan stared intently into the medicinal cauldron. A moment later, he moved his finger and a glow flashed over. It immediately transformed into a blood-red-colored Ganoderma that landed in his hand.

This Ganoderma (Lingzhi) had just appeared when it began to emit waves of a bloody scent. One could even vaguely sense a ripple of pure energy within the bloodiness.

This was one of the key ingredients used to refine the Heaven Soul Blood Bone Pill, the Dragon Blood Ganoderma. Although this kind of Ganoderma was not really tainted with dragon blood, it was extremely difficult to form. It needed to absorb the fresh blood of at least three kinds of snake-shaped Magical Beasts in order to break out of the ground and live.

Xiao Yan's finger gently caressed the surface of the Dragon Blood Ganoderma. He sensed the somewhat pure energy contained within it. After exhaling gently, Xiao Yan flicked his finger and the Demon Blood Ganoderma turned into a red glow that was thrown into the medicinal cauldron.

With the entrance of the Dragon Blood Ganoderma, the hibernating jade-green flame within the medicinal cauldron immediately surged out like a hungry wolf and swallowed it whole...

Xiao Yan's ten fingers were all flicked the instant the flame swallowed the Dragon Blood Ganoderma. One could watch as the many light spots

suspended in the air immediately divided themselves into strings of ten. They were immediately thrown into the medicinal cauldron before they began to charge into the flame without hesitation, one after the other...

The Dragon Blood Ganoderma had cold properties. It would be destroyed upon contact with fire. If one wanted to refine the medicinal liquid within it, one would have to use the dark chillness within the other medicinal items. Those ingredients that had been thrown into the medicinal cauldron earlier were the neutralizing items that had been prepared...

Refining so many medicinal ingredients at the same time was harsh on one's Spiritual Strength. However, it was fortunate that the current Xiao Yan already possessed the qualification and strength to attempt this.

The many medicinal ingredients that had charged into the flame began to swiftly wither within a couple of breaths of coming into contact with the Glazed Lotus Heart Flame. Finally, the actual bodies transformed into powder. Droplets of pure medicinal liquid began to drip down. Finally, they merged under Xiao Yan Spiritual Strength's precise control. After which, they uniformly landed on the shriveling Dragon Blood Ganoderma...

The drops of the medicinal liquids started to slowly fade the blood-red color of the Dragon Blood Ganoderma. Its blood-colored skin was peeled off piece by piece. This continued for merely a moment before the color of the Dragon Blood Ganoderma became a pale-white color.

Xiao Yan did not pay too much attention to this Dragon Blood Ganoderma that had turned pale white. The genuine essence of the Dragon Blood Ganoderma was not within its body, but in the blood-colored skin. That's what was needed to refine the Heaven Soul Blood Bone Pill.

The few drops of pale-white medicinal liquid fell on the blood-red skin, and the skin quietly melted under the constant temperature. A couple of minutes later, a fist-sized pool of a blood-colored liquid appeared within the medicinal cauldron.

Xiao Yan heaved a sigh of relief when his first refinement was successfully completed. He waved his hand and the flame wrapped around the liquid, slowly emitting a warmth that caused the blood-colored liquid to gradually shrink. The liquid's color also became richer...

This cluster of blood-colored liquid had already turned extremely viscous by the time it had shrunk to the size of a thumb. Seeing this, the corner of Xiao Yan's mouth revealed a smile. With the beckoning of his hand, another light rushed over, transforming into a white-colored fruit with a surface that was full of potholes. This was the so-called Bone Spirit Fruit...

The refinement of the few key ingredients was extremely arduous. If one did not possess a special refinement method, it would be difficult to refine the portions that one needed. This was the case for the Dragon Blood Ganoderma, for the Bone Spirit Fruit, and for the Mysterious Sky Green Vine.

The difficulty of the Bone Spirit Fruit's refinement was even greater. Xiao Yan used nearly twenty other ingredients to neutralize it along with an hour's time in order to successfully refine a white-colored drop of bone-like liquid.

After the successful refinement of the Bone Spirit Fruit, Xiao Yan threw the Mysterious Sky Green Vine into the medicinal cauldron. This so-called Mysterious Sky Green Vine was extremely tough. It was neither wood nor gold. Moreover, the thing that really surprised one was its impressive fire resistance. Even though Xiao Yan had the help of the Glazed Lotus Core Flame, he spent a total of two hours in order to cause crack lines to appear on its surface.

Over twenty light clusters flew into the medicinal cauldron the moment the Mysterious Sky Green Vine cracked apart. Finally, they were refined by Xiao Yan, transforming into droplets of pure energy that dripped onto the green vine...

Borrowing the neutralizing strength of these many medicinal ingredients, the Mysterious Sky Green Vine, that seemed to have shrivelled, finally split apart after around half an hour. A pale-green

powder scattered out before solidifying into a green-colored powder ball by Xiao Yan's Spiritual Strength.

The three kinds of key ingredients were all successfully refined. Seeing this, Xiao Yan, along with Su Qian's group observing from a great distance, sighed in relief. The swift refining method of Xiao Yan dazzled their eyes. Although they did not really know much about refining medicinal pills, they were able to pick up on Xiao Yan's smooth refining method. This kind of refinement was really somewhat pleasing...

The waves of noise transmitted from the Inner Academy did not make it to Xiao Yan's ear. He rested for a moment after refining the three key ingredients before he once again refocused his attention. He mused for a moment and took out a jade bottle from his Storage Ring. The bottle's mouth was slowly tilted and a drop of green-red blood dripped out.

The green-red blood glided in front of Xiao Yan. Although the blood was small in size, the wild and violent energy contained within it was not something that one dared to underestimate.

This green-red blood was naturally refined from the mysterious Magical Beast dried corpse that he had obtained from the auction back then. The rank of the Magical Beast when it was alive was quite high. It had already far exceeded the requirements of the Heaven Soul Blood Bone Pill. If it were to be used in the refinement and if the refinement were to succeed, the quality of the medicinal pill would likely be even greater.

The many Elders in the sky also sensed something when this drop of green-red blood appeared. All of their faces immediately changed a little.

Xiao Yan's gaze stared intently at the drop of green-red blood. A moment later, he flicked his finger and the blood gently drifted away before entering the medicinal cauldron.

The green-red liquid blood had just fallen into the medicinal cauldron when the powerful strength contained within it stirred waves of wild wind. Seeing this, Xiao Yan frowned, hesitated a little, and then immediately clenched his teeth. The medicinal liquid and medicinal powder that had been refined from the Dragon Blood Ganoderma, the Bone Spirit Fruit, and

Mysterious Sky Green Vine were thrown in with the green-red blood!

The three kinds of items, that contained extremely powerful energy, did not cause even a little surge when they landed in the green-red blood. Just when Xiao Yan's heart had just sighed in relief, however, a wild, violent energy ripple suddenly erupted from the green-red blood. It violently smashed against the medicinal cauldrons wall. A loud and clear sound wave swiftly spread, encompassing the entire Inner Academy.

The thick medicinal cauldron trembled violently a couple of times at this moment. If it had been an ordinary medicinal cauldron, it was likely that this tremble would have caused it to burst apart.

Xiao Yan's face was volatile as he looked at the surface of the green-red blood that was swiftly and repeatedly churning. At this moment, the sleek round surface of it had formed numerous long narrow thorns, causing it to look just like a tiny sea urchin. Within the churning sea urchin was an energy ripple that was so wild and violent words could not describe it.

Clang! Clang!

Numerous energy ripples repeatedly collided against the walls of the medicinal cauldron, and a loud sound repeatedly reverberated throughout the Inner Academy. At this moment, almost everyone was certain that there seemed to be a problem during the refinement.

"First Elder, what do we do?" An Elder softly inquired as he looked at the rock platform.

"What can we do? Refining a medicinal pill is different than fighting someone. How can we just help if we want to? Xiao Yan can only rely on himself during this kind of situation. Any random actions taken by others would just disturb him. Moreover, the refinement of a tier 7 medicinal pill has a low chance of success. Xiao Yan is currently still a tier 6 alchemist. Failing is an extremely common thing. There is no need to make a mountain out of a molehill." Su Qian frowned and spoke with a deep voice.

That Elder could only bitterly smile and nod his head after being reprimanded by the First Elder.

While the entire Inner Academy had turned into an uproar because of the repeated loud banging sound being emitted, Xiao Yan's gaze was staring firmly at the interior of the medicinal cauldron. His Spiritual Strength had completely poured out and densely covered every single corner of the medicinal cauldron...

He also knew that his chance of successfully refining a tier 7 medicinal pill was extremely low with his current alchemist skill. Even some tier 7 alchemist had difficulty successfully refining the medicinal pill on their first try...

With the small focal distance of Xiao Yan's gaze, his mind had become very focused. At a certain instant, the jade-green flame suddenly surged within his dark-black eyes. While the flame rose, Xiao Yan seemed to be able to vaguely see an intense battle between the energy corrosion and the merger with the green-red blood.

"So this is the reason..."

A low mutter was slowly transmitted from Xiao Yan's mouth as he came to a sudden understanding.

Chapter 933: The Mighty Pressure from the Bloodline

The most important part of refining a medicinal pill was to perfectly merge the various medicinal strengths within the many medicinal ingredients. This merger process needed to be maintained with precise control. That's why Spiritual Strength was the most important thing in determining the achievement of an alchemist.

This unexpected change that had occurred this time around seemed to have been beyond Xiao Yan's expectations. The reason was that every step he took earlier were completely done by following what was stated on the medicinal formula. There was not the slightest mistake. However, a problem still occurred. Clearly, there was something that had yet to be controlled by him while following these footsteps.

The earlier Xiao Yan was also similarly unaware of the step he had deviated from. However, he came to a sudden understanding the instant the flame surged in both his eyes. The problem did not originate from the medicinal powder nor medicinal liquid he had refined. Instead, it had come from the drop of green-red blood.

This drop of green-red blood was refined from the Demon Beast's dried corpse. The wild, violent energy contained within it had far exceeded the requirement it fulfilled for the refinement of the Heaven Soul Blood Bone Pill. Just the strength of the Dragon Blood Ganoderma, Bone Spirit Fruit, and Mysterious Sky Green Vine had difficulty completing the neutralization. In other words, it meant that the blood's strength was too strong and the medicinal ingredients' strength was too weak. The two had difficulty reaching an equilibrium...

The tight frown on Xiao Yan's face did not relax after he understood the source of the problem. At this moment, if he failed to neutralize the blood strength, he would only be able to use another rank 7 Magical Beasts blood. However, Xiao Yan had not prepared any other essence blood other than the green-red blood... thus, he could only choose the former option.

Xiao Yan's mind also became focused as this thought flashed through his heart. He waved his hand and the many light clusters that were pausing in the air were absorbed by him into the medicinal cauldron. The jade-green flame swept over them and within a couple of minutes, those medicinal ingredients slowly merged into a pale-blue liquid under Xiao Yan's precise control.

Xiao Yan looked at the blue-colored liquid that contained a gentle strength. He directed it with his hand as it slowly descended. It landed on the green-red liquid, which surface was churning with increasing intensity.

After this drop of liquid, that contained numerous medicinal ingredient's essence strengths, fell into the green-red liquid, the gentle strength contained within it had an immediate effect. The surface of the liquid blood swiftly shrank into a long narrow thorn that slowly disappeared back into the liquid.

Xiao Yan sighed in relief when he saw this scene. However, the breath had just exited his throat when he suddenly stiffened. He had clearly sensed a pressurizing feeling slowly spread from the green-red blood...

The appearance of this pressurizing feeling caused the Dou Qi within Xiao Yan's body to be sluggish. The green-red liquid, that had just calmed down, appeared to be boiling as it wildly surged. A wild and violent strength that caused one's expression to change swiftly rose within it.

The sudden unexpected change that had occurred also caused the expressions of everyone present to change. This pressure that had spread out from the blood caused even Su Qian's group to feel an instantaneous shock.

"What happened?"

"There's a problem with the green-red blood that Xiao Yan had taken out... just what kind of Magical Beast did this essence blood come from? Even some ordinary rank 7 Magical Beasts would not be able to unleash such a powerful pressure."

The many Elders in the sky revealed shocked faces as they looked to the rock platform. After which, all of them began to engage in private

whispers.

Su Qian and the Little Fairy Doctor exchanged looks. A solemn expression flashed across their eyes. Looking at this pressure, it seemed that the owner of this essence blood definitely possessed an extremely terrifying strength when it was still alive. It might even be a rank 8 peerless beast. Just where did Xiao Yan get his hands on such a high ranked Magical Beast's blood?

While everyone was stunned, no one realized that Zi Yan's gem-like eyes, who was standing beside the Little Fairy Doctor, had started to release a strange purple glow when the pressure had appeared.

At this moment, Xiao Yan's gaze was firmly locked on green-red blood. The biggest problem had indeed originated from this...

"According to what Mo Tian Xing had mentioned back then, the strength of this Magical Beast when it was alive should be around the peak of rank 7 and was about to breakthrough to rank 8. Even a Magical Beast of this rank would have difficulty emitting such a powerful pressure from just a drop of essence blood. It seemed like... this Magical Beast's background is really somewhat extraordinary."

A glow flashed across Xiao Yan's eyes. The pressure that was emitted from the green-red blood repeatedly destroyed the equilibrium of the many medicinal ingredients. It seemed that there was a remnant arrogant instinct present within the blood, an instinct that originated from its bloodline. This arrogant instinct did not allow it to be refined into a medicinal pill that a person could absorb!

"Regardless of how strong you were when you were alive, you are merely just a drop of blood now. I don't believe that I cannot subdue you!"

A thread of anger had risen within Xiao Yan's heart because of the resistance being emitted by the blood. He let out a cold snort and flicked his finger. A Dragon Blood Ganoderma once again appeared in his hand. A flame swiftly churned and rose on his hand and swallowed the Dragon Blood Ganoderma. After which, an unceasing number of medicinal ingredients also flew out from his storage ring and were thrown into the

flame.

The resistance of this drop of blood had far exceeded Xiao Yan's expectations. However, from this, he could tell just how vast and mighty the energy contained within it was. If he could successfully refine the Heaven Soul Blood Bone Pill this time around, it was likely that the pill would be of a very high quality.

This Heaven Soul Blood Bone Pill was something that Xiao Yan was refining for Medusa. If the interior of her body was really as they thought, he might be refining it for his son or daughter. Xiao Yan always sought the best in everything he did. Since he wanted to refine the pill, he would naturally refine the best one!

While the thoughts in Xiao Yan's heart churned, a drop of a blood-red-colored liquid surfaced within the flame on Xiao Yan's palm.

"I don't believe that I cannot subdue you!"

Xiao Yan clenched his teeth as he looked at the blood-red liquid. He flicked his finger and the liquid transformed into a red figure that was thrown into the green-red blood.

The wild, violent strength of the green-red blood weakened the moment the blood-red-colored medicinal liquid was thrown in. However, the pressure began to rise again immediately. Moreover, it seemed that the pressure, seeping out of the blood, was becoming stronger and stronger because of Xiao Yan's repeated offenses. In the end, Xiao Yan's sight had become somewhat dim. He could vaguely see an extremely savage, enormous beast head pouncing out of the medicinal cauldron as it violently came toward him.

The illusionary beast head did not appear, but Xiao Yan's throat still emitted a low muffled groan. He was somewhat shocked to realize that his Spiritual Strength had suddenly shown signs of weakening...

Xiao Yan inhaled a deep breath of air. The shock within his eyes had become denser. He also rejoiced a little amid this shock. It was fortunate that he did not recklessly swallow this blood. Otherwise, would his body not end up being turned into chaos by this thing?

The refinement of the medicinal pill had also been interrupted by this damn blood. If he were unable to expel the pressure from within it, he would never be able to successfully refine this medicinal pill.

Everyone looking at the solemn expression on Xiao Yan's face on the rock platform knew that an extremely great trouble seemed to have appeared.

"I wonder where big brother Xiao got his hands on this Magical Beast essence blood. It actually contains such a pressure. According to what I know, every single tribe member in some of those powerful Magical Beast Tribes in the Central Plains possesses a spiritual tablet. There is a thread of remnant spirit within the spiritual tablet. As long as this thread of remnant spirit is not scattered, the blood within its body will not be obtained by anyone else... it is quite similar to this scene. However, this is the 'Black-Corner Region.' How could a Magical Beast possessing a Spiritual Tablet appear here?" Xin Lan's eyebrows were vertical. She stood on the pavilion and muttered somewhat doubtfully in her heart.

Xiao Yan was naturally unaware whether or not this damn Magical Beast was some member of a powerful tribe in the Central Plains. The current him had already been placed in a terrible fix by the green-red blood.

A purple glow once again flashed across the pupils of Zi Yan in the distance while Xiao Yan was feeling a headache. Her body immediately moved and rushed toward the rock platform. Her lovely body penetrated through the spatial lock and appeared above the rock platform.

"Girl, now, I don't have time to help you refine Danwan to eat..." Xiao Yan waved his hand and helplessly spoke when he saw Zi Yan barge in.

"You will never be able to expel that pressure by using medicinal things because this kind of pressure originates from the bloodline. Although I am not certain just what kind of Magical Beast this fellow is, its background is definitely extraordinary. It might even be some ancient beast's descendant." Zi Yan rolled her eyes at Xiao Yan and crisply replied.

Xiao Yan was also startled when he heard this. He bitterly laughed.

Currently, he really did not wish to think about whether or not the owner of this blood was a unique beast of ancient times. He only knew that if he did not remove the thread of pressure within the blood, the medicinal ingredients that he had found with much difficulty would be wasted for naught.

“Use my blood...” Zi Yan’s eyes stared intently at the drop of green-red blood within the medicinal cauldron. The purple glow in her eyes also became more and more dense. She immediately bit the tip of her tongue without waiting for Xiao Yan’s reply. A drop of blood that contained a thread of purpleness slowly drifted out and landed in front of Xiao Yan.

Xiao Yan was stunned as he studied this drop of blood, that contained a purple luster. He asked, “Your blood can expel the pressure within the blood?”

“Although I am not aware just what kind of Magical Beast it is, my instincts tells me that my blood is even stronger than it!” Zi Yan proudly lifted her chin and snorted.

Xiao Yan doubtfully looked at this proud little fellow. He mused for a moment before sighing out loud. With the current situation, he could only try everything even if it was impossible. If this failed, he would have to push this pill refinement back.

Xiao Yan beckoned with his finger as this thought flashed across his heart. This drop of blood in front of him that contained a purpleness flew into the medicinal cauldron. After which, it landed in the green-red blood and began to swiftly merge with it at a pace visible to the naked eye...

With the entrance of this drop of blood, an instantaneous silence seemed to have appeared. Xiao Yan was stunned to discover that the powerful pressure that had been spreading out from the green-red blood swiftly scattered like snow meeting some boiling water...

Xiao Yan was stunned as he looked at the change within the medicinal cauldron. Due to his Spiritual Strength covering the entire interior, Xiao Yan could clearly sense that there was the faint feeling of being terrified like having met one’s nemesis...

Within a couple of breaths, that pressure that had given Xiao Yan an incomparable headache had completely disappeared. This kind of transformation caused him to duly look at Zi Yan, whose small face was filled with a proud expression. His heart was filled with uncertainty and curiosity. Just what exactly was this girl's actual form?

Chapter 934: Pill Formed

With the expulsion of the pressure within the blood liquid, the medicinal strength of the Dragon Blood Ganoderma and the other medicinal ingredients was finally released. After which, they steadily interacted with the majestic force within the blood and began a slow merger. A powerful strength repeatedly flowed within...

By borrowing Zi Yan's strength, Xiao Yan barely passed this roadblock. Although it was filled with danger, Xiao Yan was not completely without gain. Currently, the strength contained within this cluster of medicinal liquid was quite strong. After all, not only did it contain a drop of Magical Beast blood within it, but it also possessed a drop of essence blood from Zi Yan. Although Xiao Yan did not know exactly what kind of Magical Beast Zi Yan was, she was definitely an extraordinary from the way it was able to suppress the powerful pressure. If this pill refinement succeeded, it was likely that this Heaven Soul Blood Bone Pill would be the highest grade Secret Technique that the Snake-People Race had ever used...

After helping Xiao Yan settle the pressure issue, Zi Yan did not remain and disturb him. She glanced at the churning medicinal liquid in the medicinal cauldron with envy before smacking her mouth. Her body moved and she rushed out of the area where the rock platform was located.

Su Qian and the others only sighed in relief when they saw Zi Yan coming out. They were naturally able to tell that this little girl had lent a big helping hand to Xiao Yan earlier.

"Currently, the problem has been resolved. It is likely that the subsequent refining is only a problem of time, right? Ke ke, if this little fellow is able to refine a tier 7 medicinal pill on the first attempt, he will really be somewhat incredible. According to what I know, there is a great chance of failure even when some tier 7 alchemists refine a tier 7 medicinal pill." Su Qian laughed while fondling his beard. He looked at Xiao Yan on the rock platform, whose expression had once again become solemn.

The many Elders around, who shared the same thoughts, also smiled and nodded when they heard Su Qian's words. A tier 7 medicinal pill belonged to the legendary level to them. Forget about consuming one. The number of times that they had seen such a pill with their own eyes in their lifetime could be counted with one's fingers. After all, it had been many years since an alchemist who had the ability to refine a tier 7 medicinal pill had appeared within the 'Black-Corner Region.' Even Han Feng back then had never successfully refined a tier 7 medicinal pill...

While everyone was heaving a sigh of relief, Xiao Yan's mind was once again focused on the interior of the medicinal cauldron. His Spiritual Strength was poured into it, processing information about the flame temperature and the various reactions of the different medicinal liquids during the merger.

The jade-green flame wrapped around a half-fist-sized cluster of medicinal liquid within the cauldron. This cluster of liquid was somewhat colorful. On a whole, most of it was a bright-red color. However, that bright-red color contained quite a number of energies that possessed various colors that were slowly being merged...

Xiao Yan sighed in relief as his Spiritual Strength sensed the calmness in the cluster of liquid. After the earlier unexpected change, the situation now had become much more stable. From the looks of it, he would be able to agglomerate it into a medicinal pill embryo after all the medicinal strength within it had completely merged.

Of course, this was a slow process. Xiao Yan expected that the time needed for this merger would be at least five days...

Xiao Yan inhaled a slow breath in his heart. His eyes were slowly shut as he split some attention to circulate the Flame Mantra and absorb the surrounding natural energy. His Spiritual Strength continued to linger within the medicinal cauldron, controlling the flame temperature as well as the merger between the various medicinal strengths...

All that he needed to do, at this moment, was quietly wait.

The wait took a total of six days.

During these six days, the human crowd that had gathered within the Inner Academy had gradually scattered. However, everyone's gaze would involuntarily be thrown to the rock platform everyday when they woke up. They would look at the unmoving rock-like figure and would feel some respect.

Almost everyone had gotten used to the scene on the rock platform during the six days. They were uncertain just how long Xiao Yan needed for this kind of pill refinement. However, they would involuntarily click their tongue after personally witnessing this pill refinement. No wonder a tier 7 medicinal pill was so precious. It was unexpected that the refinement alone was so troublesome and complicated. A lot of time and effort would have to be spent. The alchemist would even have to gamble his own life...

Su Qian, the Little Fairy Doctor, and the others would habitually and frequently wait for a period of time in the sky during these six days. Only after seeing that Xiao Yan did not show any activity did they slowly left.

Xiao Yan's aura during these couple of days had also gradually become one that was vaguely present. Even his breathing had become extremely faint. He appeared just like an old monk who was about to die in a sitting posture. His aura was fleeting and difficult to pinpoint. If not for Su Qian's extraordinary experience, which allowed him determine that Xiao Yan was in a mysterious and profound condition, it was likely that he would have been worried that some trouble had occurred during the pill refinement...

Although Xiao Yan had fallen into a silence like a meditating old monk, the interior of the medicinal cauldron seemed to be like a ground flame, that had been started by lightning from the sky, as it emitted repeated banging sounds. An extremely frightening Spiritual Strength whistled and lingered within. Under this Spiritual Strength, even the Glazed Lotus Core Flame could only obediently allow itself to be ordered around...

If some high tier alchemist were to be present at this moment to witness the appearance of Xiao Yan, it was likely that they would be extremely stunned. This was because the condition that Xiao Yan was currently in was called the 'Pill Spirit Realm' in the alchemist world. Within this kind

of mysterious condition, one's Spiritual Strength would be magnified without limit. In front of this short-lived but extremely frightening Spiritual Strength, the pill refinement would not possess even the slightest chance of failure. In other words, as long as one entered this condition, this pill refinement would definitely succeed!

Unfortunately, this kind of condition was something that one could only encounter by chance and not something that one could obtain by wishing for it. Encountering it entirely depended on one's luck. Clearly, Xiao Yan had been blessed by the Heavens this time around...

Six days slowly passed. When the seventh morning arrived, a thread of sunlight broke over the land. It shot over from the sea of trees in the distance before shining on the rock platform, wrapping around the black-robed, young man.

Under this warm sunlight, Xiao Yan, who had shut his eyes tightly for six days, trembled a little before slowly opening them.

His dark-black eyes reflected the shining sunlight that caused people to feel dizzy. His eyes contained a powerful strength along with a layer of fog. It seemed that he had advanced by a level. Moreover, a quiet aura slowly spread from Xiao Yan's body like an awakened lion. This aura was actually much purer compared to six days ago. If Xiao Yan was at the initial stage of a six star Dou Huang in the past, the current him was standing at the peak of a six star Dou Huang. Breaking through to the seventh star was within reach...

This pill refinement was really beneficial to Xiao Yan.

Xiao Yan was also slightly startled when he sensed the aura that spread out of his body. A deep thought flashed across his eyes. Clearly, he did not expect himself to undergo such a great change. During these couple of days, he had indeed been in a kind of mysterious and profound condition. In that condition, his Spiritual Strength seemed to have undergone the greatest transformation. The extremely complex medicinal strength merger within the medicinal cauldron was not only agglomerated by him, but there had not been the least bit of unnecessary exhaustion in the

process.

Based on common sense, the chances of successfully refining the Heaven Soul Blood Bone Pill this time around would not have been very high because the pill contained the additional medicinal strength of a Dragon Blood Ganoderma and also a drop of Zi Yan's essence blood. Thus, it no longer completely adhered to the method in the medicinal formula. It should be known that even if an inconspicuous medicinal ingredient from the medicinal formula was missing, there was a chance of it causing the pill refinement to fail. After all, each medicinal formula was successful after a countless number of attempts by the predecessors. One could just imagine the difficulty the later generation would face by attempting to change it out of the blue...

If Xiao Yan had not luckily enter that kind of mysterious and profound condition where his Spiritual Strength had been limitlessly magnified, it was likely that even if Xiao Yan could not have forcefully formed a medicinal pill embryo, he would definitely have failed at the last step. It must be said that he was extremely lucky to be able to succeed by such an unbelievable opportunity...

Xiao Yan's gaze slowly slide toward the medicinal cauldron. He looked at the purple-red-colored embryonic medicinal pill that was wrapped within the flame. A smile of having been relieved of a great burden also surfaced on Xiao Yan's face.

The embryonic medicinal pill was around the size of a dragon's eye. Its entire body was purple-red in color. Its surface was filled with potholes, giving it an ugly appearance. However, Xiao Yan could sense the majestic medicinal strength within it. This kind of strength had the mysterious effect of improving a person's training talent.

It was commonly known that one's training talent came during one's birth. It was extremely difficult to raise it. However, this so-called Heaven Soul Blood Bone Pill was able to improve it. Just this point made it worthy of its tier 7 name...

The embryonic medicinal pill had already been formed. Next was the

final pill brewing step. This step was completely without any risk after Xiao Yan had entered that kind of 'Pill Spirit Realm' condition because all of the medicinal strength had already been perfectly merged when the embryonic pill was formed. In other words, even if Xiao Yan did not perform this last step, this embryonic medicinal pill's effect would not be any different...

Of course, being an alchemist, Xiao Yan would naturally pursue perfection. Hence, he did not skip the final step. He maneuvered his strength and repeatedly suppressed the medicinal pill. The jade-green flame that lingered around it slowly weakened. It emitted a faint warmth that slowly seeped into the embryonic medicinal pill. The pungent fragrance that was emitted by the medicinal pill was sufficient to cause one's heart to be stirred...

The final pill brewing step did not last for too long. Around ten hours later, the embryonic medicinal pill that was filled with potholes had transformed into a thumb-sized pill. The ugly potholes on the surface had quietly disappeared. A red and a purple color covered the outer shell of the sleek, round medicinal pill, causing one to be fond of it. At this moment, even the most ignorant farmer knew that this medicinal pill was extraordinary.

The purple and red colors were just like a Yin Yang fish as they outlined the surface of the medicinal pill. At a glance, it seemed to possess some intelligence and was extremely mysterious. The faint clear fragrance around the medicinal pill braced one's attention each time one sniffed it.

The moment the medicinal pill was about to be formed, the sky within the Inner Academy suddenly and swiftly became dark. Layers of dark clouds swiftly agglomerated in the sky. One could see silver-colored lightning within the dark clouds, swimming like silver snakes.

This scene that had suddenly appeared in the sky caused everyone in the academy to stop. They looked at the dark murky clouds in the sky. An instant later, they appeared to share the same thought as their eyes suddenly turned to the direction where the rock platform was located. At this moment, a black figure was standing with his hands behind his back

at that spot. His gaze was studying the unusual change in the sky with neither shock nor fear...

“A tier 7 medicinal pill... is it about to be born? Big brother Xiao Yan... he actually succeeded?”

Xin Lan raised her head from within a yard in the ‘Pan’s Gate’ manor. She looked at the dark clouds in the sky and a trembling excitement quietly rose within her heart.

Chapter 935: Pill Lightning

This strange phenomenon that had suddenly appeared in the sky also alarmed Su Qian and the others. Immediately, a round of rushing sounds reverberated across the sky. Numerous figures flashed and appeared before floating in the air. Their faces were solemn as they looked at the dark clouds that permeated the sky.

“Pill Lightning...”

Su Qian remained suspended in the sky. His expression was solemn as he looked at the silver-snake-like lightning that was roaming within the dark clouds before slowly speaking in a deep voice.

The Little Fairy Doctor and Zi Yan stood in the empty sky beside Su Qian. Even their hearts felt some fear in the face of this natural pressure.

“All Elders, listen up. Begin to place a formation in the Inner Academy. Act immediately should any Pill Lightning fall into the Inner Academy!” The thick dark clouds in the sky seemed to have covered half of the Inner Academy. Seeing this, Su Qian finally cried out loud with a serious face.

“Yes sir!”

None of the many Inner Academy Elders dared to slight the order given by Su Qian. They immediately replied in union before rushing down and scattering themselves to all the corners of the Inner Academy. Powerful Dou Qi surged out of their bodies and immediately began to act in concert with one another.

“All students of the Inner Academy are to return to their dormitories immediately. Do not loiter around this place!” Su Qian was still somewhat worried after seeing the many Elders obeying his orders. He ended up turning his head and shouting at the Inner Academy.

Seeing the solemn old face of Su Qian, the students could only obediently head back to their dormitories despite quite a number of them feeling curious about the unusual change in the sky. After which, they stood at the entrance of their dormitories and carefully watched the sky.

“When some overly high tier medicinal pills are born, the powerful strength sparks a fluctuation in nature and the Pill Lightning eventually appears. The old me has seen Pill Lightning twice in my life. Once when I was training in the Central Plains when I was young, I saw a tier 7 alchemist refining a medicinal pill. Finally, the sky was full of faint lightning when the pill was formed. The second time is now... moreover, the Pill Lightning that Xiao Yan has initiated is even stronger than the tier 7 alchemist back then.” Su Qian finally sighed a little after giving the orders. He raised his head, and looked at the layers of dark clouds that repeatedly emitting thunderous noises before slowly speaking.

“First Elder, in your opinion... can Xiao Yan receive this Pill Lightning?” The Little Fairy Doctor’s pretty eyes glanced at the black-robed, young man standing with his hands behind his back on the rock platform before she involuntarily asked in a somewhat concerned manner.

Su Qian also hesitated a little when he heard this. Immediately, he smiled bitterly and shook his head. He said, “I am also not certain about this. After all, the number of Pill Lightnings that I have witnessed is limited. However, during the Pill Lightning I saw back then, the alchemist had invited three experts with the strength of three star Dou Zong in order to block it. The Pill Lightning of Xiao Yan this time around is clearly even stronger. With his strength alone, perhaps... there will be some difficulty.”

The Little Fairy Doctor tightened her hand slightly as she quietly nodded. The majestic Dou Qi within her body began to quietly flow. She had already made up her mind to immediately intervene should Xiao Yan show any signs of being unable to endure!

“Ugh, watch him closely. The both of us will intervene if something goes wrong. Although I don’t know if I can block the Pill Lightning, I will, at the very least, be able to share a significant amount of Xiao Yan’s burden...” Su Qian also sighed and spoke.

The Little Fairy Doctor lowered her snow-white chin and said, “We’ll trouble First Elder...”

While the two of them were conversing, the dark clouds in the sky had

become much thicker. From a distance, they appeared to be about to touch the ground, causing one to feel an extremely great pressure.

From the view of the people within the Inner Academy below, the top of Xiao Yan's head was currently filled with layers of dark clouds. Silver-colored lightning flowed all over the interior of the clouds. They would occasionally collide together and the loud sound of thunder would erupt. That heavenly might caused one's heart to panic.

Hence, all the students and even some Elders admired Xiao Yan for being able to remain impassive as he stood on the rock platform in the face of this situation.

Chi La!

An arm thick silver glow rushed down from a dark cloud in the sky. The light was so glaring that it caused the dark sky to light up.

Xiao Yan on the rock platform lifted his head and watched the thick, dark clouds within close proximity. The churning lightning within appeared to be blasting his ears, causing a ringing sensation to be transmitted from his eardrums.

"Is this the Pill Lightning?"

Xiao Yan stared intently at the silver-snake-like lightning flowing within the dark clouds. He sensed the enormous energy contained within it. Surprise and some heat flashed across his eyes...

The greatest hope of a countless number of alchemists was to be able to refine a high tier medicinal pill that could summon Pill Lightning. From the way they saw it, this was a kind of great honor. It was the same for Xiao Yan. He clearly recalled that even when Yao Lao acted to refine the Ground Spirit Pill back then, he did not stir such a terrifying scene. It was likely that Yao Lao would feel gratified if he were aware of this scene today...

"Teacher... you mentioned back then that if this disciple were able to refine a medicinal pill that could summon the Pill Lightning, this disciple would have already reached the qualification to graduate. Unfortunately,

you are unable to personally witness this scene...”

Silver-colored lightning repeatedly flashed in Xiao Yan’s dark-black eyes. His hand gently rubbed the fire seal on his forehead as he softly muttered.

“Bang!”

The silver-colored lightning began to intersect with each other, becoming more intense. In the end, the atmosphere of the entire sky had become extremely pressurizing. Around ten plus seconds later, the dark cloud suddenly split into a crack line. Immediately, a half-foot-wide silver lightning carried a loud sound, that reverberated over the sky, as it shot out from the dark clouds like an enormous silver-colored python. Its target was surprisingly the...purple-red medicinal pill in front of Xiao Yan on the rock platform!

A solemnness also flashed across Xiao Yan’s eyes when he saw the silver lightning suddenly make its move. He clenched his hand and an enormous Heavy Xuan Ruler appeared.

“Six Joint Body Flowing Ruler!”

A low cry sounded and the ruler figures suddenly appeared in a closely packed manner. Within two to three breaths, they transformed into a layer of ruler figures so dense that wind could not pass through. They also wrapped around Xiao Yan’s body.

“Bang!”

The silver lightning arrived suddenly. Although it was weakened a little by the spatial mark surrounding the rock platform, it still carried a natural might that violently smashed against the ruler’s figure. A loud sound immediately resounded over the sky.

Countless numbers of tiny lightning bolts were directed away by the ruler figures when the fierce lightning arrived. They were like extremely dense tiny silver snakes that were thrown all over the rock platform.

“Raging Flame!”

The ruler figure piled layer after layer, appearing endless as it received

the silver lightning. A moment later, a low cry sounded and a couple of large ruler glows suddenly crossed each other before immediately shooting out and colliding violently with the silver lightning, breaking apart the latter.

Xiao Yan inhaled a deep breath of air after having broken a fierce bolt of lightning with one strike. He clenched his somewhat numb hand before heavily inserting the Heavy Xuan Ruler into the ground. He raised his head and cried out, "Continue!"

Due to Xiao Yan's provocation, the black cloud mass began to churn more violently. A moment later, a 'chi la' sound once again rang out. A silver-colored lightning that was at least double the size of the one earlier once again shot out from within the black cloud.

"Ha ha!"

Xiao Yan's heated eyes looked at the silver-colored lightning that transversed across the sky. He immediately laughed out loud as both his hands formed a seal in a lightning-like manner.

"Open Mountain Seal! Break it!"

An enormous energy handprint surfaced in front of Xiao Yan. In an instant, it whizzed out and finally met with the enormous lightning without shrinking back in front of a countless number of shocked gazes below.

"Bang!"

The energy handprint collided with the enormous lightning with a bang. Enormous silver glows blasted apart like fireworks in the sky. The next instant, the energy hand seal swiftly turned pale. The silver lightning that had become much darker still continued to head for Xiao Yan in an extremely stubborn manner.

"It is indeed worthy of the strength of nature. However, I want to see just how many times you can resist!"

Surprise flashed across Xiao Yan's eyes when he saw that the silver lightning forcefully shatter the Open Mountain Seal. He immediately

laughed and his hand seal was once again formed.

Another enormous energy hand seal appeared when the seals on his hands changed. It blatantly collided with the remnant lightning. Finally, both of them were annihilated amid a thunderous explosion.

A countless number of people in the Inner Academy were stunned when they saw Xiao Yan forcefully shatter two lightning bolts. There was also an excitement that they had difficulty suppressing along with their shock. Fighting the might of nature with one's own strength. This feat caused all men to feel their blood boil, much less these students who were still in their youth.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

The continuous shattering of two silver lightning by Xiao Yan seemed to have caused the dark clouds to become even more furious. Immediately, a countless number of silver glows flashed as numerous silver-python-like lightning strikes broke through the restraints of the dark clouds and violently smashed toward Xiao Yan on the rock platform one after another.

A wild heat flashed across Xiao Yan's eyes as he took in the densely packed silver lightning falling from the sky. His experience these years had created his cool character. However, it might have been because he would be leaving soon, but the current him appeared exceptionally arrogant. It must be said that only the current Xiao Yan had a demeanor that truly belonged to someone of his age group...

A young person must be bold and willing to fight. He dared to confront even nature itself!

A jade-green flame rose around Xiao Yan's body as he raised his head and wildly laughed. His laughter was like thunder as it resounded unceasingly across the entire Inner Academy. He wildly flapped his sleeves as numerous ten-foot-large Dou Qi pillars shot from his body and met the silver lightning permeating the sky without fear...

Bang! Bang! Bang!

Loud, thunderous explosions repeatedly erupted across the sky. Each time they erupted, another ripple would appear in the sky.

The silver lightning in the sky came down from all directions. This doomsday-like manner caused the deep recesses of one's spirit to emit fear.

After fighting head-on with the silver lightning for dozens of exchanges, Xiao Yan on the rock platform had begun to gradually reveal a pale expression on his face. A trace of blood even appeared on the corner of his mouth. Despite this, the wild heat within his eyes was not the least bit weakened...

Numerous numbing lightning strengths swiftly flowed within Xiao Yan's body, causing him to feel a lack of strength. He had gradually fallen into a disadvantage during his resistance.

Xiao Yan's retaliation slowly weakened. However, the Pill Lightning became even fiercer. That momentum was as though it would never give up if it did not shatter the medicinal pill.

"Bang!"

A silver glow lit the entire place as a five-foot-wide silver-colored Pill Lightning once again shot down from the dark clouds!

Su Qian's and the Little Fairy Doctor's expressions changed a little as they sensed the strength of this silver lightning. Their bodies moved and were just about to launch a rescue when Xiao Yan's loud laughter was once again transmitted from the rock platform.

"Earth Demon Puppet, appear!"

A silver-colored figure appeared out of nowhere in front of Xiao Yan as his loud laughter sounded. Its fist was immediately clenched and thrown out without any fancy skills!

The lightning shattered as the fist was thrown out!

Silence permeated the sky. Numerous stunned gazes solidified...

Chapter 936: Earth Demon Puppet

Revealing its Might

The silver-colored human figure, that had suddenly appeared, attracted everyone's eyes. A punch defeating such a powerful lightning bolt? It was likely that even an ordinary elite Dou Zong would have difficulty achieving this.

Su Qian and the Little Fairy Doctor were the fastest to recover from the permeating silence. Their gazes focused intently on the human figure with a glaring silver glow within the lightning. They ended up frowning slightly a moment later. This was because they discovered that they were unable to sense the aura of that figure. At the very most, they were able to sense an extreme force within it.

Despite this force being powerful, it revealed some stiffness to it, appearing as though it had lost its intelligence...

"This is..." Su Qian's gaze stared intently at the silver-colored human figure. A moment later, he inhaled a deep breath of air and slowly said, "This is that so-called 'Sky Demon Puppet?' Xiao Yan has actually refined it?"

A strange glow also flickered in the Little Fairy Doctor's pretty eyes. She nodded slightly and softly said, "However, from Xiao Yan's cry earlier, it does not appear to be the 'Sky Demon Puppet,' but an Earth Demon Puppet..."

"I have also read that Puppet Skill back then. The puppet is divided into three categories, Sky, Earth, and Man. It is likely that the puppet Xiao Yan refined is the Earth class..." Su Qian mused for a moment before speaking with a slight change in his expression. "It is unexpected that just an Earth category is already so powerful. Just how strong would be the highest category 'Sky Demon Puppet' be? Don't tell me that it could contend against an elite Dou Zun?"

The Little Fairy Doctor shook her head. Her pretty eyes watched the

silver-colored figure as she said, “With the help of this puppet, it is likely that we will not need to intervene...”

“Looking at its strength, this puppet should be at least around a five star Dou Zong. It should not be a problem dealing with a Pill Lightning that is more than halfway finished...” Su Qian also nodded and agreed with her.

Xiao Yan sat down on the rock platform while the Little Fairy Doctor and Su Qian were conversing. He rubbed away the blood trace on the corner of his mouth while exhaling some coarse breath. With his current strength, it was already not easy to forcefully receive so many Pill Lightning. Unless he used the Angry Buddha Lotus Flame, it was likely that he would not be able to endure all of it.

Xiao Yan sensed the chaotic lightning strength randomly wiggling within his body as he sat on the ice-cold rock table. The corner of his mouth involuntarily twitched a couple of times. These damn energies had entered his body when he had made contact with his Dou Qi earlier. However, it was fortunate that the interior of his body was protected by the ‘Heavenly Flame.’ Hence, they did not cause much harm. Nevertheless, the special numbing effect of the lightning strength still caused Xiao Yan to feel as if his entire body lacked strength. Even the circulation of his Dou Qi had become much more weary.

Xiao Yan clenched his teeth and forcefully sat cross-legged. He raised his somewhat pale face and looked at the black mass of dark clouds in the sky. Silver light flashed in the dark clouds as rumbling thunder slowly spread, causing one’s mind to be uneasy.

“This damn Pill Lightning should be almost over already, right? As long as I endure another couple of rounds, I will have successfully endured it...” Xiao Yan pulled at the corner of his mouth as he slowly spread his hands. A thumb-sized purple-red medicinal pill was reflecting a somewhat demonic-like luster under the silver flashes. Xiao Yan was able to sense a majestic and mysterious life force within this medicinal pill...

“Little thing, I have suffered quite a lot of hardship for you...” Xiao Yan bitterly laughed and muttered to himself while looking at this Heaven Soul

Blood Bone Pill.

“Bang!”

While Xiao Yan was muttering to himself, the cloud layer once again churned in the sky. A banging thunder sound exploded.

“Is it about to come again...” Xiao Yan brows were slightly knit as he sensed a swiftly agglomerating majestic lightning bolt within the cloud layer.

Chi La!

An enormous silver-colored pillar suddenly broke through the restraints of the cloud layer. The glaring light, at that instant, caused the dark Inner Academy to appear just like it would during daytime.

The lightning strength contained in this enormous silver-colored lightning bolt was even more frightening than any previous times. According to Xiao Yan’s estimation, it would be difficult if First Elder Su Qian were to forcefully receive this strike.

“This Pill Lightning is indeed frightening. Moreover, this is only the Pill Lightning that is formed by a tier 7 medicinal pill. If it is tier 8 after it or even tier 9... that kind of Pill Lightning would possess the strength to destroy the world, right?” Su Qian stood in the sky and looked at the enormous silver-colored lightning. It lingered in the sky before using a falling meteorite-like stance to smash down. He ended up involuntarily letting out an exclamation.

The Little Fairy Doctor nodded slightly. Her pretty eyes were locked on the enormous silver-coloured lightning bolt. The lightning strength contained within it had already reached a frightening degree.

“Earth Demon Puppet, go!”

Xiao Yan looked at the enormous silver-colored lightning, that reached in a flash, before a low cry was transmitted from his mouth.

“Bang!”

Xiao Yan’s cry had just sounded when the Earth Demon Puppet’s knees

were bent slightly. Suddenly, the figure was like a fiery arrow, borrowing the propulsion force from a string as it shot toward the enormous silver-colored lightning with a bang.

The Inner Academy immediately emitted numerous exclamations when they saw that the Earth Demon Puppet had chosen this head-on collision.

With the speed of the Earth Demon Puppet, it appeared under that enormous lightning bolt within the blink of an eye. His fist was once again tightened, and a fiery-red-colored energy flowed from the Monster Core in its body. Finally, the energy swiftly wrapped around its hand, causing it to appear like a flame...

“Bang!”

The Earth Demon Puppet clenched its fist tightly and once again launched an ordinary punch without any hesitation!

A sharp sonic boom sound immediately appeared in the air when the punch was thrown. Numerous frightening wind ripples swiftly spread out like waves of water from the surface of the fist.

“Boom!”

The fist that contained the frightening force landed on the enormous silver-colored lightning. At this instant, the lightning solidified because of it. After that instant, an explosion, that appeared to have gone off deep within everyone’s spirits, sounded before spreading across the sky in a soul-stirring manner...

The enormous silver lightning slowly collapsed in front of many stunned gazes. Those with sharp eyes discovered that spider-web-like dark-black spatial cracks had appeared at the spot where the Earth Demon Puppet’s fist landed. They involuntarily inhaled a deep breath of cool air.

While the lightning crumbled, the Earth Demon Puppet was also similarly violently smashed down from the sky by that enormous strength. It smashed into the Inner Academy with the sound of trembling ground. Soon after, however, the silvery body of the Earth Demon Puppet once again flew out before someone could go and investigate. It was suspended

above the rock platform, forming a human wall of defense in front of Xiao Yan.

Xiao Yan sighed in relief when he saw the Earth Demon Puppet received the enormous lightning so valiantly. His gaze swept over its body only for his eyes to immediately narrow.

At this moment, the entire body of the Earth Demon Puppet was emitting a silver glow. There seemed to be some faint lightning flickering under this silver glow. The silver-colored glow was extremely pure, but Xiao Yan clearly recalled that the surface of the puppet's body still contained some mottled spots when he had refined it...

"That silver lightning strength seemed to have unwittingly exposed some of the mottled impurities within the Earth Demon Puppet's body..."

The refinement of the puppet used its color to identify its category. The purer its color, the stronger its actual strength. If there was a classification within the same category, the Earth Demon Puppet when it was just successfully refined back then could, at the very most, be considered at the middle level. However, after the refinement by the lightning strength, it gradually advanced to a higher level!

"This thing... really appears to be quite good..."

The corner of Xiao Yan's mouth was slowly lifted into an arc. He raised his head and looked at the lightning in the dark clouds with heated eyes. He wondered whether the Earth Demon Puppet would be able to reach the peak of the high level if it received all of them.

This thought of Xiao Yan had just appeared when the silver glows in the sky flickered once again. Seeing this, Xiao Yan laughed and said, "Continue to attack!"

Hearing Xiao Yan's orders, the Earth Demon Puppet did not hesitate even a little. It once again shot its body into the air, paused in the sky, and violently threw punches, colliding head-on with the silver lightning!

Bang! Bang! Bang!

The sound of exploding lightning repeatedly resonated across the sky.

The silver glow emitted from the body of the silver-colored figure, however, grew brighter and brighter in front of stunned gazes...

This kind of continuous head-on collision continued for around half an hour or so. The lightning strength within the dark cloud layer in the sky was greatly reduced. The dark cloud gradually ceased churning. Its color had also slowly become paler... clearly, this Pill Lightning was over.

Following the paling of the dark clouds, the pressurizing feeling that had covered the entire Inner Academy completely dispersed. Quite a number of people sighed in relief and appeared to have been alleviated from a heavy burden when the first rays of sunlight rained down from the sky. There was really too much pressure under nature's might...

The Earth Demon Puppet once again rushed down and appeared in front of Xiao Yan when the dark clouds paled.

Xiao Yan glanced at the Earth Demon Puppet, which had turned extremely silvery and shiny without even the presence of the slightest impurity on it. A satisfied smile surfaced on the corner of his mouth. He waved his hand and returned it to his Storage Ring. After which, he took out a jade bottle and carefully placed the Heaven Soul Blood Bone Pill into it.

Only after completing all of this did Xiao Yan fully heave a sigh of relief. His hand gently rubbed his chest and muttered to himself, "What can the strength of lightning do? With my 'Heavenly Flame,' there is nothing that cannot be refined. Since all of you dare to barge into my body... you shall help me breakthrough to the seventh star level!"

Xiao Yan slowly shut his eyes after his voice sounded. Both of his hands swiftly formed the training seal.

During this period of pill refinement, Xiao Yan had relied on the so-called 'Pill Spirit Realm' to swiftly reach the peak of the six star Dou Huang level. All that he needed was a small opportunity for him to breakthrough. Originally, he had thought that he would have to wait for another period of time for this opportunity. In the end, the lightning strength that had barged into his body had unexpectedly given him this

opportunity...

Chapter 937: Breaking Through Again!

It had been nearly two days since the eruption of the Pill Lightning back then. During these two days, Xiao Yan's figure had been sitting cross-legged on that rock platform with his eyes tightly shut. Waves of suction force surged out of his body, completely absorbing the surrounding compact natural energy...

Xiao Yan had been maintaining this absorbing condition ever since the Pill Lightning had ended back then. Moreover, his aura had also become unstable under this condition. Waves of powerful Dou Qi were like the tide as they repeatedly overflowed from Xiao Yan's body before slowly shrinking back into it. This appeared to be like a cycle that went on continuously...

With the eyesight of Su Qian and the others, they were naturally aware of the condition Xiao Yan was in. At this moment, he was in a condition where he was about to breakthrough and advance. Hence, Su Qian had not only dispatched people to seal the stairs that led to the rock platform, but had also isolated a large area below the rock platform. At this moment, if Xiao Yan were to be disturbed and end up leaving this condition, his losses would be quite great. After all, this kind of breakthrough opportunity was not something that would appear just because one wanted it to.

During these few days, the students of the Inner Academy had already become extremely familiar with the black-robed figure on the rock platform. When they occasionally passed by from a distance, their gazes would carry respect and reverence as they looked at the somewhat skinny figure. He was able to reach this level at such a young age, one that was even higher than some of the seniors within their clan. Moreover, everyone knew that Xiao Yan currently still belonged at an age that was most optimum for training. Who knew just what kind of frightening stage he would reach in the future?

The respect within quite a number of students involuntarily became denser as these thoughts flashed in their hearts. Xiao Yan's achievements were worthy of their respect.

Despite being under the watch of a countless number of gazes, Xiao Yan on the rock platform appeared to have lost his senses to the outside world. He sat cross-legged like an old monk in meditation without even moving a little... Although his body might seem like a statue, some of those who were more sensitive could detect the aura surrounding his body swiftly increasing in strength.

The sky was without any clouds within tens of thousands of kilometers.

The Little Fairy Doctor stood in the empty sky. She was wearing simple and light clothes. Her long snow-like hair was randomly restrained by a purple-colored ribbon. Her white hairs drifted when the breeze blew over, emitting an ethereal feeling. Her narrow body was covered by a plain yellow-colored dress. The clothes, that contained golden threads, highlighted the skin that was revealed, causing it to appear even paler. Her beauty caused some of the male students to unintentionally slow down while walking within the academy. Some unusual glints appeared in their eyes.

There were not many students in the Inner Academy who knew much about the Little Fairy Doctor. All that they knew was that this cold, indifferent and beautiful woman had been following senior Xiao Yan. Moreover, this girl, who did not appear much older than them, was an elite Dou Zong who was even stronger than First Elder Su Qian!

In the face of the Little Fairy Doctor's achievements, which were even more frightening than Xiao Yan's, quite a number of the so-called geniuses within the Inner Academy quietly felt their faces turn pale under this demon-like training talent. However, this did not prevent the Little Fairy Doctor from being the ideal lover of many male students within the Inner Academy.

She was strong and possessed a great demeanor. Most importantly, she was extremely beautiful. Moreover, she appeared feminine, demure, and pitiful. This matched the most important criteria that a man used to select a lover, causing one to involuntarily wish to go and take pity on her. Of course, they could only think such thoughts within their hearts. This was because they clearly knew that if they did not possess Xiao Yan's talent

and charm, it was basically impossible to successfully subdue such a monster-like girl.

The Little Fairy Doctor was unaware that she had gained such a reputation within the Inner Academy in such a short amount of time. Even if she was aware of it, she would not pay much attention to it. Her encounters during these years had created her somewhat cold and indifferent character. Unless it was someone she was familiar with, she would not take the initiative to make contact or chat with them.

At this moment, her pretty eyes were staring at Xiao Yan on the rock platform. She would spent a great amount of time just looking at Xiao Yan during this time everyday. This continued without stopping for five days. The stubbornness of the Little Fairy Doctor had attracted some males to feel their pity for her soar. From the looks of the flame that was burning in their eyes, it was likely that they would be unable to control themselves and charge up to issue a challenge if not for the enormous gap between them and Xiao Yan. After which, they would rescue this beauty from her bitter wait.

Of course, this so-called impulse had just rose when it was swiftly destroyed before it could even reach their minds because their rational told them that if they really did this, it was likely that Xiao Yan would not even need to act. The perfect lover in their hearts would randomly wave her hand and send them flying like a fly.

A gentle breeze blew across the sky. The Little Fairy Doctor's clothes adhered to her body, outlining her moving curves. Her delicate hand gently pushed away the snow-white hair that landed in front of her forehead. Her pretty eyes studied Xiao Yan, who did not show any activity. Her pretty brows were involuntarily bunched up as she muttered, "Are you still not done? Is the time taken for this advancement not a little too long?"

It had been four days since Xiao Yan had entered his training condition. During these four days, his body had maintained this condition, not moving even a little... if the Little Fairy Doctor wasn't able to sense the gradually strengthening aura within Xiao Yan's body, it was likely that she

would have really thought that an accident had occurred during his training...

A soft sigh was transmitted from the Little Fairy Doctor's small mouth. She immediately turned her body around and was preparing to leave...

However, the instant she turned her body, a wave of energy was suddenly transmitted from the rock platform.

With the Little Fairy Doctor's ability, such an energy uprising, that was not considered overly intense, was discovered by her almost instantaneously. Her body suddenly turned and her pretty eyes carried a thread of joy as she watched the rock platform.

At this moment, the energy around the rock platform had become extremely turbulent. Numerous mottled natural energies swiftly agglomerated, appearing to form a swirl above Xiao Yan's head. Finally, they poured into Xiao Yan's body from all directions.

The pouring in of this energy only continued for a short dozen plus seconds before it slowly scattered. When the final thread of mottled energy disappeared, Xiao Yan's eyes, that had been shut for four days, abruptly opened!

A powerful aura suddenly surged out of his body in all directions the instant he opened his eyes!

The violent flow of the aura only lasted a short instant before it was swiftly withdrawn into Xiao Yan's body. However, this sudden change still stirred the attention of quite a number of people within the Inner Academy. At that moment, numerous gazes were thrown to the rock platform. Some exclamations were involuntarily emitted when they saw Xiao Yan open his eyes.

Xiao Yan did not mind the noise that sounded within the Inner Academy. He twisted his neck and he immediately clenched his fist randomly, sensing the Dou Qi within his body that was much more powerful when compared to a couple of days ago. He involuntarily parted his mouth and smiled. The current him had finally successfully broke through the six star Dou Huang level and reached the seven star Dou

Huang level.

“Seventh star... there is still a gap of two stars before I can reach the peak of the Dou Huang class. Dou Zong... is also not far away...” Xiao Yan slowly stood up from the rock platform and muttered to himself. His gaze immediately swept to the northern sky of the Jia Nan Academy as he became a little absentminded. Back then, Xun Er had gone this direction when she left...

Xiao Yan's gaze stared absentmindedly at the northern sky. A moment later, he abruptly clenched his fist. A cold stern glint flashed across his dark-black eyes. At this moment, he also recalled the man who had arrived at the Inner Academy back then and brought Xun Er away. His name was definitely a memory that was difficult to remove for Xiao Yan.

“I am the new deputy commander of the Black Submerged Army, Ling Quan.” Back then, the young man, stepping on a four winged single horned beast, had spoken with a cold smile to Xiao Yan from a higher position.

“Ling Quan...”

Xiao Yan inhaled a deep breath of air. A coldness flashed across his eyes. The him back then was as weak as an ant in front of the so-called Black Submerged Army's Deputy Commander. However, he currently had the confidence of finishing him off under his ruler should this person once again appear in front of him!

After Xiao Yan's swift growth within a short couple of years, the current Xiao Yan was no longer that small Da Dou Shi who anyone could knead with their hands!

“Xun Er, wait for me... Central Plains, wait for me too!”

Xiao Yan overlooked the entire Inner Academy as he stood on the rock platform. A pride suddenly surged from his heart before filling his chest.

“Have you advanced successfully?”

A graceful lovely figure appeared in the

air outside of the rock platform and gently asked Xiao Yan a question while the latter's mood surged.

Xiao Yan smiled and nodded as he looked at the Little Fairy Doctor who appeared exceptionally innocent in her pure and simple clothes. He said, "It has been tough on you providing protection during these couple of days."

"Why is there a need to say such polite words between us?" The Little Fairy Doctor's eyes were lowered as she softly spoke. A bashful red that a girl ought to have climbed up her pink face. Her tone seemed to contain slight displeasure.

"Ke ke, I have been reckless. I will not say it in the future if you don't like it." Xiao Yan hurriedly changed his words when he saw the Little Fairy Doctor appear a little unhappy. He only sighed in relief when he saw her face become a little better. He smiled and said, "Let's go, after I put some things in order, it might be time for us to leave."

"Are we about to leave? When will it be?" The Little Fairy Doctor was startled when she heard this before speaking somewhat unwillingly.

Xiao Yan smiled slightly. His gaze returned to the northern sky. For some unknown reason, a heat and impatience had suddenly surged in the current him. He seemed to really anticipate the so-called Central Plains...

"Within three days..."

Xiao Yan suppressed the heat in his heart, turned his head, and smiled. He answered the Little Fairy Doctor while looking at her smooth-jade-like face. At this moment, the Little Fairy Doctor suddenly felt that the man in front of her was filled with a confidence and surging strength that was difficult to describe.

Chapter 938: Departure

Xiao Yan sat on a rock chair within a quiet yard. A tea table sat beside him, created from rock, and two plates of snacks had been placed on it. A pot of green tea was emitting a faint cloud that scattered a slight fragrance. Xiao Yan quietly sat on the rock chair. He occasionally tasted a mouthful of green tea, and suddenly felt a little sentimental. After all, he was about to leave this place. Moreover, the future was filled with uncertainty. Regardless of how strong a person was, their heart would feel a melancholy in the face of a future they were not certain of.

Xiao Yan looked at the somewhat yellowish tree leaves in the yard and involuntarily let out a soft sigh. He turned his head and looked at a figure standing at the entrance of the yard. He smiled and asked, "Second brother, you have arrived?"

Xiao Li at the entrance nodded his head before slowly entering the yard. He was silent for a moment before he spoke, "I just rushed over from Xiao Gate. From what First Elder said, are you planning on leaving?"

Xiao Yan smiled and replied, "It is time to leave. Continuing to remain in this place will not allow me to truly gain the strength to contend with the 'Hall of Souls'."

"You are always walking right at the front... however, this place is indeed too small for the current you. The Central Plains would be most suitable for you." Xiao Li sighed with a feeling of desolation. He focused on Xiao Yan and some emotion once again appeared in his heart. The tender young man from back then had unknowingly grown up to such an extent...

Xiao Yan's eyes involuntarily turned sour as he looked at the somewhat unhappy Xiao Li. The departure this time around was not like in the past. The distance between the Central Plains and the 'Black-Corner Region' or the Jia Ma Empire was difficult to calculate. Hence, he did not know when he would return after this departure...

Xiao Li hurriedly braced his attention when he saw the somewhat quiet Xiao Yan. Xiao Li patted his shoulders and smiled as he said, "Don't act so

sentimental with your second brother. If big brother knew that I was hindering you here, he would probably scold me to death.”

Xiao Yan’s heart become warm at the mention of big brother. He said, “Second brother should properly manage Xiao Gate after I leave. With ‘Pan’s Gate’ backing it up, it will be difficult to limit the potential of Xiao Gate. By the time I return, Xiao Gate might have already become the overlord of the entire ‘Black-Corner Region’...”

Xiao Li parted his mouth and laughed. He said with great pride, “You can rest assured that it is only a matter of time before that situation happens.”

Xiao Yan grinned when he heard his reply. He shook his head and said, “Don’t underestimate these fellows in the ‘Black-Corner Region.’ However, I have already talked to the First Elder. He will try his best to help you. The Jia Nan Academy is usually on bad terms with the factions in the ‘Black-Corner Region.’ In the past, it had been everyone’s target. However, with the current Xiao Gate, the Jia Nan Academy had an additional ally. With Xiao Gate’s spreading influence in the ‘Black-Corner Region,’ it would be able to help the Jia Nan Academy escape an embarrassing situation...”

Xiao Li nodded his head and said, “Relax. You have handed to me a complete Xiao Gate. In the future, I will return a Xiao Gate that is ten times more powerful than it currently is.”

Xiao Yan smiled. He hesitated for a moment before taking out a jade bottle from his Storage Ring. There was a purple-red medicinal pill within it. Xiao Yan’s hand caressed the jade bottle before handing it to Xiao Li a moment later. He softly said, “Once I leave, I would like to trouble second brother to dispatch someone to deliver this medicinal pill to the Jia Ma Empire and personally hand it to Cai Lin’s hand.”

“Cai Lin? Queen Medusa huh...” Xiao Li was slightly startled when he heard this name. However, it was fortunate that he was also aware of the relationship between Cai Lin and Xiao Yan. Hence, he nodded his head. He did not ask for the reason as he received the medicinal pill and cautiously placed it within his Storage Ring. He said, “Third brother, please rest assured that I will personally deliver this to the Jia Ma Empire when I

have the time.”

Xiao Yan smiled and nodded. He softly said, “Additionally you should make contact with big brother more frequently. The Yan Alliance is flourishing within the Jia Ma Empire. With Cai Lin guarding it, the ‘Hall of Souls’ will find it difficult to harm the Yan Alliance unless its true experts get involved. Once Xiao Gate’s strength increases in the future, we will be able to occupy the east and the west with Yan Alliance. At that time, both factions will dominate this north-western region.”

“Yes.”

Xiao Li nodded his head. He looked at Xiao Yan and inquired, “When will you return after leaving this time?”

Xiao Yan was silent. He immediately shook his head and softly said, “I don’t know...”

“When will you depart?”

“Tomorrow.”

Xiao Li involuntarily let out a bitter laugh when he heard this. He took a step forward and violently gave Xiao Yan a big hug. His hands forcefully patted won Xiao Yan’s back as he said, “Little Fellow, take good care of yourself. Remember big brother’s words. The Xiao clan cannot do without you. Father’s rescue is also something that only you can achieve!”

Hearing Xiao Li’s voice suddenly becoming a lot more hoarse, Xiao Yan’s eyes involuntarily turned red despite his character.

“Second brother, you should also take care.”

The warm sunlight scattered down from the sky the next day and shined at the entrance of the Inner Academy. A densely packed group of human heads were moving there. Numerous gazes looked at the small hill outside of the door. A couple of figures were standing straight at that spot.

“First Elder, Second brother, it is fine by just sending us off until this place.”

Xiao Yan looked at Su Qian and Xiao Li at the entrance before once

again looking at Wu Hao and the many Inner Academy's students behind. He involuntarily smiled and spoke in a loud clear voice.

Seeing the face of the black robed young man that was filled with a warmth smile, Su Qian also felt somewhat sentimental. He said, "There are quite a number of you. Xin Lan has also yet to reach the Dou Wang class and cannot fly. Hence, you should use this griffon to replace your footsteps."

An enormous black figure carried an eagle's cry as it slowly descended from the sky after Su Qian's voice sounded. It flapped its enormous wings, carrying a wild wind that caused the small trees all around to bend their bodies.

"Thank you very much First Elder..."

Xiao Yan's heart also felt a warmth as he looked at this griffon in front of him. After which, he cupped his hands together and smilingly thanked Su Qian.

After saying all these, Xiao Yan appeared to be unwilling to remain in this kind of parting atmosphere for long. His body moved and appeared on the griffon. Little Fairy Doctor, Zi Yan and Xin Lan also closely followed behind him. However, it was fortunate that the space above this griffon was quite big. Hence, it did not appear squeezey despite four people coming on board.

"Xiao Yan, be careful on your journey!"

Xiao Li once again cried out loud as he looked at the griffon that was slowly flapping its wings.

Xiao Yan nodded his head slightly towards Xiao Li while standing on the enormous head of the griffon. His gaze immediately swept over everyone. Finally, he inhaled a deep breath and waved his sleeves. A wind supported the griffon as it swiftly rose to the sky.

"Chief, travel well!"

A loud and clear roar suddenly sounded from the academy's entrance below as the Griffon gradually rose into the sky. Xiao Yan turned his head

and saw quite a number of members from Pan Gate screaming out with flushed red faces.

Xiao Yan smiled slightly. He cupped his hands towards everyone below and a clear laughter was slowly transmitted down while the Griffon rose.

“Nothing is unchanging. Everyone, I’m sure we’ll meet again someday! If it’s destined, let’s meet in the Central Plains!”

While the clear laughter was slowly transmitted down from the sky, the Griffon in the sky had already transformed into a small black dot and swiftly disappeared from everyone’s sight. Quite a number of people felt somewhat sentimental from the lingering remnant voice.

Su Qian withdrew his gaze. He turned his head and looked at Xiao Li beside him before smilingly said, “There is no need to worry. Given that fellow’s character, he will also be able to survive very well even in the Central Plains.”

“He is the pride of my Xiao clan.” Xiao Li smiled. His words revealed a little pride.

“I believe that he will also become the pride of the Jia Nan Academy...” Su Qian laughed out loud. After which, he turned around and walked towards the Inner Academy. While he walked, he said, “I really don’t know just what kind of interesting situation it will be if this fellow meets headmaster in the Central Plains. Hee hee...”

Hearing the strange laughter at the end of Su Qian’s words, the people at the entrance of the academy involuntarily looked at each other. They felt somewhat baffled as they turned around and followed...

The enormous Griffon flapped its wings in the distant sky as a faint light barrier spread out from its body, completely blocking the wild wind that was rushing at them.

Xiao Yan stood on the back of the Griffon with his hands behind his back. His gaze slowly withdrew from the direction of the Inner Academy which had already vanished from his sight. He was also feeling a desolation from having to leave.

“Are we really bringing this girl?”

Little Fairy Doctor at the side appeared to be aware of Xiao Yan’s current dispiritedness. She softly spoke, changing the topic while her pretty eyes looked at the excited little face of Zi Yan by the side.

Xiao Yan also pulled his attention back when he heard this. He glanced at Zi Yan and helplessly said, “First Elder asked me to bring her along. He said that some secrets related to her actual body might be revealed in the Central Plains...”

“Humph, I am currently at the Dou Huang class. Don’t tell me that you are worried that I will end up being a burden?” Although the conversation of Xiao Yan and Little Fairy Doctor was soft, it was still heard by Zi Yan. Her eyes immediately widened as she snorted with dissatisfaction.

Xiao Yan gently rubbed Zi Yan’s head with a smile. He did not argue with her. Instead, his gaze looked at Xin Lan and smilingly said, “You will need to indicate the subsequent route.”

“Yes.” Xin Lan smilingly nodded. Her gaze overlooked the place before speaking, “If we wish to reach the Central Plains, we will need to reach a city called ‘Horizon City’. From the place, we will be able to use the Wormhole to head to the Central Plains.”

“Wormhole?” This foreign name caused Xiao Yan to be stunned.

Xin Lan involuntarily covered her mouth and laughed when she saw the uncertainty in Xiao Yan’s eyes. “Wormholes are peculiar things to the Central Plains. It is created by elite Dou Zun using spatial strength to connect two different locations. The distance from the ‘Black-Corner Region’ to the Central Plains would take an elite Dou Zong at least half a year to cover. However, if one uses the Wormhole, one would only require a month’s time. However, the creation of a wormhole is quite difficult. Moreover, it must be frequently repaired. Additionally, the strength of the repairing person must be at least at the Dou Zong class. Therefore, it is very rare for it to appear in any region other than one like the Central Plains...”

Xiao Yan was once again stunned. Wormhole? Required an elite Dou

Zong to be a repairman? This Central Plains actually possessed such a mysterious and new stuff? At this moment, Xiao Yan appeared to have the distress of a hillbilly entering a city...

Chapter 939: One Hall, One Tower, Two Sects, Three Valleys, Four Pavilions

Horizon City sat in a mountain range called Tianqing, tens of thousands of kilometres away from the 'Black-Corner Region.' Being the only city which possessed a wormhole to the Central Plains within a radius of thousands of kilometers, the flourishing of this Horizon City was second to none.

With the speed of the Griffon, it required nearly half a month's time in order to reach the Tianqing Mountain Range from the 'Black-Corner Region.' However, Xiao Yan's group had no other choice in the face of this matter. Xin Lan had yet to reach the Dou Wang class. Even if she had barely reached it, it would have been difficult to support her flight all the way to Horizon City. It was simpler to ride the Griffon rather than travel a little bit and stop repeatedly even though this would exhaust an even greater amount of time. However, once one got used to it, a few days' time was nothing.

During this flight, Xiao Yan increased his understanding of the Central Plains from his chat with Xin Lan.

The Central Plains of the continent was extremely vast in size. Hence, most of the large scale cities within the Central Plains had installed so-called 'Wormholes' and using it to reduce the time one needed to travel. The builders of these 'Wormholes' were mostly peak experts or ancestors that belonged to the city. Hence, if the ancestor who built the 'Wormhole' belonged to a certain clan, this 'Wormhole' would also belong to that clan. Of course, owning a public transport machine was something that even an extremely strong clan did not dare randomly do by themselves. Despite this, there were still a couple of clans who would do such a foolish thing. After all, if one were to open it to the public, the profit that a 'Wormhole' would bring ever year would reach an extremely frightening number. Such a number was sufficient to support the entire clan.

Hence, the appearance of every 'Wormhole' within the Central Plains

would attract the red eyes of a countless number of factions. However, other than some powerful clans or sects, the remaining people could only simply watch full of envy. After all, not everyone could invite an elite Dou Zun to spend a great amount of effort to build a 'Wormhole.' Hence, the 'Wormhole' represented wealth and strength within the Central Plains. Those clans able to own one were mostly renowned factions. Of course, this was with the exception of some clans which were enjoying what was left behind by their ancestors...

"The Central Plains is indeed different from other places. A wormhole. Such a thing had never existed in the 'Black-Corner Region'." Xiao Yan on the Griffon involuntarily smacked his mouth and laughed after hearing Xin Lan talk about the Wormhole.

"Connecting two distant spatial points requires an extremely precise control over spatial strength. It is extremely difficult for anyone other than elite Dou Zuns to do it." The Little Fairy Doctor nodded slightly. Her tone contained some surprised.

"Wormholes are but one of the specialties of the Central Plains. Once big brother Xiao Yan arrives there, you will be able to personally experience them." Xin Lan smiled as she spoke.

"Who are the strong factions within the Central Plains?" Xiao Yan nodded his head. He hesitated for a moment before eventually asking. When walking into that region, he should know who he could offend and who he not afford to offend.

"The factions in the Central Plains are divided. I am only aware of some of the human factions, and I don't know much about the Magical Beast Tribes or the other races." Xin Yan mused for a moment before speaking, "In the Central Plains, the human factions are roughly divided into One Hall, One Tower, Two Sects, Three Valleys, Four Pavilions."

"One Hall, One Tower, Two Sects, Three Valleys, Four Pavilions?" Xiao Yan slowly repeated these words in his mouth. He frowned slightly and asked, "This one tower should refer to the Pill Tower, right?"

"Yes, the tower refers to the Pill Tower. As for the hall, it refers to the

‘Hall of Souls’.” Xin Lan stared at Xiao Yan and softly spoke. She had heard First Elder mention that Xiao Yan had quite the grudge with the ‘Hall of Souls.’

“Hall of Souls?” These simple words instantly caused Xiao Yan’s face to turn dark and cold. Sharp killing intent flashed out of his dark-black eyes.

“The ‘Hall of Souls’ is extremely mysterious in the Central Plains. An ordinary person has difficulty meeting a member of the ‘Hall of Souls.’ Forget about its headquarters, there are few people who even know about some of their branches. Despite this, the ‘Hall of Souls’ is still able to be ranked side by side with the Pill Tower. This is enough to tell just how frightening its hidden strength is.” Xin Lan nodded. She paused for a moment before continuing, “Big brother Xiao Yan, I know that you have quite the grudge with the ‘Hall of Souls.’ However, for your safety, I advise you to hold out and reach the point where you can really contend against it. After all, even the Pill Tower doesn’t wish to easily make contact with the ‘Hall of Souls.’ It should be known that the three great heads of the Pill Hall are legendary experts that could be ranked in the top ten even in the Central Plains. Even though this is the case, the three great heads are extremely afraid of the mysterious chief of the ‘Hall of Souls.’ According to some rumors, the three great heads of the Pill Tower had once quietly exchanged blows with the ‘Hall of Souls.’ No one has ever heard about the results of the exchange.”

Xiao Yan quietly nodded in the face of Xin Lan’s suggestion. He inhaled a deep breath of air and suppressed the killing intent in his heart. Since the ‘Hall of Souls’ had such deep roots in the Central Plains, he would sooner or later be able to follow their traces and pull all of them out! No matter how strong they were, Xiao Yan would not display the slightest hesitation or shrink back!

“What about the Two Sects, Three Valleys, Four Pavilions?” Xiao Yan suppressed the churning thoughts within his heart, changed the topic, and asked.

“The two sects are the Profound Sky Sect and the Flower Sect. These two sects also possess an extremely great strength within the Central Plains.

The experts within their sects are as numerous as the clouds. Although they can not be compared with the Pill Tower nor the 'Hall of Souls,' they are an existence that cannot be underestimated. The three valleys are the Icy River Valley, Sound Valley, and Burning Flame Valley."

"Burning Flame Valley?" The corner of Xiao Yan's mouth twitched involuntarily as he heard this somewhat familiar name. It was the only faction that he knew which possessed a 'Heavenly Flame.' Moreover, the Sky Fire Three Mysterious Change that he practiced was a secret from that faction.

"If I have the opportunity, I might head to this Burning Flame Valley and try to see if I am able to obtain the final two changes. If I can, my strength would greatly soar once again." Xiao Yan's eyes flickered as he muttered in his heart.

With Xiao Yan's current strength, he was undefeatable in the Dou Huang class by just using the first change of the Sky Fire Three Mysterious Change. If he obtained the other two changes, it was likely that he would be able to face an elite Dou Zong head-on even without using the Angry Buddha Lotus Flame.

Xin Lan was naturally unaware of the thoughts in Xiao Yan's heart. When she saw that there was something unusual in his expression, she thought his expression was because the Demon Flame Valley also possessed a 'Heavenly Flame.' Immediately, she hurriedly reminded, "Big brother Xiao Yan, the Burning Flame Valley's Nine Dragon Lightning Flame has long been perfectly sealed by them over the generations. Even if an outsider managed to obtain it after much effort, it would be difficult for him to use it as his own. Offending such a powerful faction for a 'Heavenly Flame' that could not be used is not wise."

Xiao Yan smiled and nodded. He said, "Relax, although I require 'Heavenly Flames,' it has not reached the point where I experience such foolish thoughts."

Xin Lan finally sighed in relief upon hearing this. She did not wish to bring Xiao Yan to the Central Plains only to end up watching him get

himself into trouble for no reason. Her clan might possess some strength within the Central Plains, but it was not to the extent where it could treat a faction like the Burning Flame Valley as nothing.

“The four pavilions are the Falling Star Pavilion, Ten Thousand Sword Pavilion, Yellow Spring Pavilion and the Wind Lightning Pavilion. Due to their positions on the Central Plains, the coincidentally form a square shape; therefore, it is called the Square Pavilion. Their strengths are similar and quite strong. They could be considered the top even among the top rate factions in the Central Plains. Try your best not to offend these factions that I have mentioned in the Central Plains in the future...” Xin Lan seriously reminded.

“Wind Lightning Pavilion?”

This other familiar name directly caused Xiao Yan’s expression to become somewhat strange. He clearly remembered that the Three Thousand Lightning Movement he practiced seemed to be a top ability technique of this Wind Lightning Pavilion.

“Of course, these factions are only some of those with the biggest reputation in the Central Plains. However, there are too many hidden dragons and tigers in a place like the Central Plains. Some factions, which seemed to be relatively unknown, might hide some ultimate expert within it. Hence, it is best to be extremely careful when doing anything in the Central Plains.” Xin Lan clapped her hand as she spoke.

“My knowledge regarding the non-human factions is extremely limited. However, their strengths are extremely frightening. There is no lacking of frightening factions which could contend with the ‘Hall of Souls’.” Xin Lan bunched up her eyebrows when she spoke until this point. She reminded, “Moreover, if you wish to kill any Magical Beast in the Central Plains, it is best that you ascertain that there is no tribe behind it. If there is, try your best to kill it without anyone knowing. Otherwise, it is very easy to invite the vengeance of a Magical Beast tribe.”

Xiao Yan immediately wiped the cold perspiration off his forehead when he heard these words. Wasn’t the Central Plains too mysterious? One

actually had to investigate the background of a Magical Beast before one could kill it?

“Ha ha, of course, there is definitely no necessity to do this if it is an ordinary Magical Beast. What I am referring to are those Magical Beasts which can speak the human language and possess some intellect. Moreover, there are also strong and weak Magical Beast tribes, and they are disunited. With the exception of some frightening existences, nothing will happen if you do things cleanly.” Xin Lan covered her mouth and laughed when she saw Xiao Yan’s face.

Xiao Yan only sighed in relief when he heard this. He now possessed a vague outline of the distribution of the factions in the Central Plains. He immediately smiled. It seemed that the Central Plains would indeed be an extremely exciting place. The number of experts there were as numerous as the clouds and the factions were all jumbled together. Such a place was suitable for him. The strong had their own paths. Only with repeated tempering and battles would one be able to find the essence of fighting. Such a life was what he wanted. At the very least, he did not feel the slightest disappointment when he heard Xin Lan’s introduction.

Xin Lan’s face suddenly became joyful while Xiao Yan was praising the region in his heart. She pointed at mountains that had suddenly protruded from the ground and joyfully uttered, “Tianqing Mountain Range. Big brother Xiao Yan, we have arrived!”

Chapter 940: Close

The Griffon passed through the flat plains and slowly entered the mountain range. These mountains were filled with lush-green trees. Many of the giant trees were over a thousand feet tall. Many agile monkeys were climbing and playing rough with each other within this forest. These fellows were filled with intellect, and did not hide when they saw a person. All they did was duly give them a glance. Clearly, they were already used to seeing passersby. One could see a faint spiritual aura present on these mountains. It was likely that this place was where the land veins were located, filling it with sufficient spiritual strength. It was most suitable for practitioners to train. Xiao Yan's group did not stop at this place. They continued to drive the Griffon over a mountain. Immediately, spacious well-connected roads in the mountain range appeared within Xiao Yan's sight. They were even able to see numerous figures coming and going on the main roads. Despite being this far apart, Xiao Yan was still able to hear some of the noise that was transmitted from the ground.

The sky above the mountain range did not contain this single Griffon belonging to Xiao Yan. They had just entered the mountain range when they heard the rushing sound of wind some distance away. Immediately, they saw many different shaped flying beasts flapping their wings, heading to the interior of the mountain valley. Along the way, some beasts flew close to Xiao Yan's group, allowing him to clearly see some human figures seated aboard the flying beast.

Xiao Yan's first impression of the entire mountain range was a flourishing feeling. After all, even in the sky above the 'Black-Corner Region,' it was difficult to find so many flying beasts appearing at the same time. In this place, it seemed that flying beasts were an ordinary form of transport. However, most of the flying beasts that they saw during their journey were rank 1 or 2 Magical Beasts. There were seldom any existences that exceeded rank 3. Hence, this Griffon of Xiao Yan's attracted quite a number of surprised gazes. This was especially the case when they saw that there were only four people on such a big flying beast. Those surprised gazes began to reveal additional envy. It was quite

difficult to find a high rank flying beast like the Griffon. Unless it was a clan or faction which possessed a rich foundation, it was quite difficult for an ordinary person to tame one.

“It is indeed worthy of being the most prosperous city within a thousand kilometers...”

Xiao Yan did not mind the envious gazes. His mouth emitted a soft sigh as his foot gently stepped forward. The Griffon let out a clear eagle cry before immediately flapping its enormous wings, swiftly flying deeper into the mountain range.

The Griffon flew for over ten minutes or so before an enormous city faintly appeared behind the cover of the lush, green mountain peaks.

That enormous city was completely absorbed into Xiao Yan’s eyes as he gradually approached. His gaze carefully observed the city size as he involuntarily nodded once again.

The Griffon came closer to the ground as Xiao Yan observed the city. Just when it was about to enter the sky of the city, however, a figure rushed over from the city gate. It immediately transformed into a yellow-robed old man.

The yellow-robed old man had quite a cold, stern face. A pair of Dou Qi wings were flapping behind his back as he stood in front of the Griffon’s flying path. He said in a deep voice, “Don’t tell me that this is the first time that you have come to Horizon City? Don’t you know that flying beasts are not allowed to enter the sky above the city?”

With its flying path blocked, the Griffon stopped its body while emitting an eagle cry. Its enormous eyes contained a fierce aura as it stared at the yellow-robed, old man. However, it only obediently relaxed its feathered wings when Xiao Yan stomped his feet.

“This is indeed our first time here. It is unexpected that there are actually so many rules to this Horizon City.” Xiao Yan glanced at the yellow-robed, old man in front of him and spoke with a faint voice.

“An expert Dou Huang?”

The face of the yellow-clothed, old man changed slightly as he sensed the thunder-like voice resounding beside his ear. His gaze cautiously swept over the Griffon. Immediately, he was somewhat stunned to discover that other than one person, the strength of the remaining three people far exceeded his, especially the white-clothed lady's strength. The feeling of pressure her gaze gave caused even the flow of the Dou Qi in his body to become much more sluggish.

"This woman's strength is frightening. There are only a few people even within the Luo clan who can make me feel this way! What is the motive for such a strong person to head to my Horizon City?" Some waves rose within the yellow-robed, old man's heart. His face, however, became much warmer. He cupped his hands to Xiao Yan's group and said, "This friend, this is indeed the rule of Horizon City over the years. There is a special place to park the flying beast that our Luo clan built for travelers at the city entrance."

"Luo clan? Big brother, there are many factions within Horizon City and it is extremely chaotic. However, the one that existed for the longest time is this Luo clan. That 'Wormhole' is also possessed by the Luo clan. There is an ancestor within the Luo clan whose strength is around that of a five star Dou Zong or so. He is the strongest in this city. If not for the existence of this ancestor, it is likely that the Luo clan would have difficulty controlling this 'Wormhole' for so many years. After all, this extremely profitable fat meat is watched by an immense amount of people with envious eyes on a daily basis." Xin Lan softly explained behind Xiao Yan when she heard the yellow-robed, old man's words.

Xiao Yan nodded slightly. His gaze swept over the yellow-robed, old man. His strength was merely that of a two star Dou Wang or so and could barely be considered an expert. The reason they had arrived was merely to shorten their journey by using the 'Wormhole.' He did not wish for some other problem to occur because of other matters.

"Thank you for informing us. Additionally, I wish to ask where the Wormhole of Horizon City is?" Xiao Yan asked with a neutral voice.

"Friends, you have come at an unfortunate time. The Wormhole is

currently under maintenance during these few days and is temporarily closed. However, the experts of my clan are trying their best to repair it. I think that it will open again soon.” The yellow-clothed, old man shook his head, and explained the situation when he heard this.

“Closed?” Xiao Yan knit his brows when he heard these words. Was his luck really this bad?

“How long will your repairs take?” The Little Fairy Doctor slowly opened her eyes and asked in a clear faint voice.

“I am not very sure. One hasn’t seen the severity of the problem when it comes to repairing the Wormhole. This Wormhole of Horizon City is something built by an ancestor of my Luo clan over a hundred years ago. After being used for so many years, it is only natural that it possesses a lot of problems. We seek your understanding. If the few of you really wish to pass through, you can temporarily stay for a couple of days in the city. It should be fixed by then.” The yellow-robed, old man, afraid of slighting the Little Fairy, hurriedly replied when he saw her open her mouth.

“Additionally, my clan’s ancestor is recently recruiting some elite Dou Zongs to help him repair the Wormhole together. If miss is interested, you can head to the center of the city where the Wormhole is located...” The yellow-robed, old man seemed to have recalled something after he had spoken and he quickly added some more information.

The Little Fairy Doctor was non-committal to the yellow-robed, old man’s words. She randomly lowered her snow-white chin before throwing her pretty eyes to Xiao Yan.

“Let’s enter the city first...”

Xiao Yan mused a little before immediately cupping his hands to the yellow-robed, old man. With a wave of his sleeves, a wind wrapped around the Griffon and swiftly landed it on the ground.

The yellow-robed, old man bitterly laughed when he saw Xiao Yan’s group land on the ground. He sighed, “The problem with the Wormhole this time around is massive. Otherwise, with ancestor’s ability, he would not need to invite other elite Dou Zongs to work with him. It is not easy to

hire these fellows. Not only do they have an attitude, but the rewards they wish to obtain are exorbitant... “

Xiao Yan did not head in the direction the yellow-robed, old man had indicated and land in the so-called stopover point. He randomly found an area in the forest outside of the city and landed.

“Return home...”

Xiao Yan’s group leaped down once the Griffon landed on the ground. He looked at the Griffon which was creeping on the ground and smiled as he gave it a command.

Like it had understood Xiao Yan’s words, the Griffon used its large head to rub Xiao Yan a couple of times. After which, it flapped its enormous wings and slowly rose into the air before swiftly disappearing into the horizon.

Xiao Yan also exhaled as he sent the Griffon off with his eyes. He waved his hands to the Little Fairy Doctor and the rest, turned around, and took the lead to walk to Horizon City.

“Xiao Yan, the Wormhole is temporarily closed. What should we do?” The Little Fairy Doctor followed with slow steps as she walked beside Xiao Yan. Her eyebrows were slightly knit as she asked.

“We will first rest in the city for a night and wait to see if there is any news. If there is still no news tomorrow, we will head to the center of the city to take a look.” Xiao Yan walked slowly and spoke with a smile.

The people present naturally did not object to Xiao Yan’s words. Hence, all of them simply nodded.

Xiao Yan’s group randomly found a cleaner inn after having entered the city. After which, they stayed in it. News flowed the quickest in a place like this where human traffic gathered. Such a place was the most convenient and fastest way to know what was happening in the city.

After settling the Little Fairy Doctor and the rest in, Xiao Yan took a stroll around, successfully obtaining some of the information he needed.

It was just as the yellow-robed, old man had explained. Currently, the Wormhole within Horizon City had been closed. Moreover, it seemed that the problem of the Wormhole this time around was really quite big. Even the ancestor of the Luo clan, who was a five star Dou Zong, was unable to resolve the problem in one go. Hence, he could only invite other elite Dou Zongs to aid him. However, elite Dou Zongs were extremely rare existences even in Horizon City. Additionally, the relationship of this place was extremely complicated. Moreover, this matter was also related to a valuable object like the Wormhole. Hence, the invitation by the ancestor of the Luo clan did not achieve much effect. Due to the lack of manpower, the matter of repairing the Wormhole was temporarily shelved. This caused the Luo clan to feel a great heartache. After all, their Luo clan would suffer a great loss everyday the Wormhole remained closed.

“Looks like tomorrow... there is a need to go and take a look. Delaying things this way is not a good thing...”

Xiao Yan in the room held this thought as he slowly shut his eyes and entered his daily training condition...

Chapter 941: Red Clothed Young Lady

When the first rays of sunlight penetrated the window and transformed into light spots that shot onto the ground, Xiao Yan, who had his eyes shut, finally slowly opened them. He softly muttered, "Looks like there is a need to head to the city center to take a look. After all this place is the only Wormhole within a thousand kilometer radius of Horizon City..."

Xiao Yan sighed softly and rolled off the bed. He bathed a little before heading out to gather the Little Fairy Doctor and the other two. The group walked out of the inn and rushed to the city center.

Xiao Yan's four men group was slowly walking down the main road, that had an unending amount of traffic. Perhaps it was because it was still morning, but the air contained moisture that existed in the mountain forest, giving them a refreshing feeling.

The two sides of the street, paved with bluestones, would occasionally transmit various cries. A dazzling array of merchandise had placed in the shops on both sides. The huge human flow was just like ants that were penetrating through them. Horizon City was emitting an exceptionally busy, constricted feeling.

"It is rumored that the ancestor of the Luo clan is inviting helpers to repair the Wormhole. We can go and take a look. We will decide whether to lend a hand depending on the situation. After all, the factions within Horizon City are too complicated. It is not wise for us to get involved." Xiao Yan's feet were slowly progressing at a special pace. His gaze swept over the shops on both sides of the street while his mouth spoke indifferently.

"Yes." The Little Fairy Doctor nodded slightly when she heard this. She was the only one among them who had stepped into the Dou Zong class and possessed the ability to control spatial strength.

Da! Da!

Waves of horse hooves were suddenly transmitted from the front of the street while Xiao Yan was conversing with the Little Fairy Doctor.

Immediately, the street became chaotic. A fiery-red figure rushed over from the end of the street, knocking over a countless number of people along the way. When these people took a look with furious eyes, they discovered that there was a young lady in bright-red clothes on the horse. The young lady appeared extremely attractive, but there was a thread of wild arrogance between her brows. A bright-red whip hung from her small waist while a proud lovely laughter reverberated across the street.

The red horse was just like a flame that fwhipped over from the distant. Within a couple of blinks, it appeared a short distance from Xiao Yan's group.

"A good dog doesn't block the road! All of you, move aside for this miss! Otherwise, no one will take responsibility if you are stomped to death!"

The red-clothed, young lady cried out. Her brows immediately bunched up as she looked at the few figures in front of her who did not move.

Xiao Yan, who was originally going to dodge aside, immediately revealed a cold expression when he heard these words. He disliked this kind of arrogant woman the most. He placed the leg, which he had just lifted, back down and continue slowly walking forward without lifting his eyes.

"Hmph, you're seeking death!"

This action of Xiao Yan was naturally absorbed into the red-clothed, young lady's eyes. She let out a cold snort as her hand grabbed the whip. Immediately, a red shadow rushed forward amid a clear air tearing sound, carrying a wind as it was swung at Xiao Yan.

Xiao Yan's face continued to remain calm. He randomly clenched his hand and the whip was automatically caught. After which, he pulled at it randomly.

"Ah!"

The enormous force that was transmitted from the whip caused the red-clothed, young lady to let out a sharp cry. Her body was pulled down from the horse, and she landed on the ground on her butt.

"As***le, bastard you dare attack this lady?" The face of the red-clothed,

young lady immediately turned green when her buttock made contact with the ice-cold dirt. She furiously roared at Xiao Yan, appearing like an angered female tiger.

“I am merely teaching you a lesson on behalf of your elders...” Xiao Yan glanced at the red-clothed, young lady. He immediately ignored her as he led the Little Fairy Doctor and the others down the street.

“What are you? You actually dare to teach me a lesson? Who do you think you are?” The indifferent words Xiao Yan gave her had completely angered this red-clothed, young lady. Immediately, her voice became much sharper. “Uncle Hua, uncle Lui, kill this as***le!”

The young lady’s sharp cry had just sounded when two old figures swiftly rushed through the air and arrived, blocking Xiao Yan’s man group.

The two figures, who appeared in front of Xiao Yan, had gray and white hair respectively. By observing the aura of these two, it seemed that their strengths were around a five to six star Dou Huang and could be considered quite strong.

“This friend, my clan’s young lady is indeed a little mischievous. However, she is after all a girl. Isn’t it a little inappropriate for you to treat her like this...” The gray-haired, old man initially glanced at the red-clothed, young lady, whose face was flushed red with anger. After which, he looked to Xiao Yan, and frowned as he spoke.

With his eyesight, he was naturally able to sense the aura of this black-robed, young man in front of them was little different from theirs. It was even a little strong. Hence, their words were not too domineering.

“That is why she is currently still alive.” Xiao Yan raised his eyes. His voice was still calm, but he was not a kind person. If it had been an arrogant male who dared curse at him today, the punishment would not have just been getting pulled down from a horse.

At this moment, quite a number of people had gathered around the street because of this unexpected occurrence. These people shook their heads when they saw the red clothed young lady. Immediately, they threw some pitiful gaze towards Xiao Yan’s group. This red clothed young lady

was a famous little demoness in Horizon City. Anyone who meet her could only consider themselves unluckily. It was unexpected that this fellow actually dared to attack her today. Looks like they should be people who had come from outside the city.

The expressions of the two old men changed slightly in the face of Xiao Yan's calm words that hid a chill. Their eyes became somewhat sinister. The red-clothed, young lady was the most doted granddaughter of the ancestor of the clan. Hardly anyone in this Horizon City dared to say such words.

"You as****. You still dare to be so arrogant in Horizon City. By striking this lady, my grandfather will definitely not let you off. If you are wise, you will kneel down now, kowtow to this miss and apologize..." The red-clothed, young lady had climbed to her feet at this moment. Losing such face in front of so many people was something that she, who had an unusually great pride, had difficulty accepting. Immediately, her small face had significantly changed due to her fury. However, before her furious cry was completely voiced, a ghost-like figure suddenly appeared in front of her, and the figure swung its hand. It immediately landed a violent strike onto the young lady's face in front of a countless number of stunned gazes.

"Slap!"

A clear sound appeared on the street. At this moment, everyone's hearts quivered violently. This slap... was really too cool.

The red-clothed, young lady turned her head. Five somewhat purplish-red fingerprints appeared on her face. A thread of blood overflowed from the corner of her mouth. Her eyes were filled with disbelief. She could not believe that there was really a person who dared to give her a slap.

"He will not kill you if you dare curse again. I will!"

An indifferent ice-cold voice that was filled with killing intent slowly sounded from in front of the red-clothed, young lady, causing her body to tremble. She slowly raised her head, only to see a plain dressed beauty standing with a pretty face that contained an evilness. When both of their

eyes met, the red-clothed, young lady was able to see genuine killing intent radiating from from the other party's eyes.

“How dare you!”

The sudden slapping sound caused the two old men to be stunned. Immediately, they let out a furious cry. Their bodies moved and they rushed toward the Little Fairy Doctor in a lightning-like manner.

The two people had just moved when the faint sound of rumbling thunder appeared. Immediately, a black figure appeared in front of them. Two fists were thrown out. The shockingly wild energy that momentarily erupted caused the expressions of the two to change. They hastily met the punches.

“Bang!”

The sound of flesh colliding suddenly rang out. Immediately, everyone was stunned to see the two old men, with a strong reputation within Horizon City, swiftly step back. The black-robed, young man appeared to be like an unmoving rock.

“You only have yourselves to blame for this matter today. If you continue to be insensible, do not blame me for being vicious!”

Xiao Yan's gaze was dark and cold as he looked at the two old men. The killing intent within his eyes contained traces of coldness. The matter today was fast reaching his bottom line.

The two old men did not dare to make any unnatural movements after having been deterred by the strength that Xiao Yan had displayed. They could only cry out bitterly in their hearts. This little grand-aunt had dominated the city for so many years and had finally collided with the tip of a spear. This little fellow might appear young, but he was extremely strong. The attack earlier was something that hardly anyone within their clan could display.

“This friend, I am a member of the Luo clan. The young lady who offended you earlier is the young miss of the Luo clan. Please do not hurt her on account of the Luo clan.” The gray-haired, old man sighed in his

heart as he cupped his hands together and pleaded.

“Luo clan?” Xiao Yan frowned slightly when he heard this. Although he already knew that the background of this lady was likely not weak, he did not expect her to be a member of the Luo clan in Horizon City.

“You... you dare hit me?”

Only at this moment did the red-clothed, young lady finally recover from her stunned state. She rubbed the fiery hot fingerprint mark on her face. Her hands trembled as she pointed at the Little Fairy Doctor in front of her. The anger in her eyes had reached a frightening degree.

After her words sounded, the red-clothed, young lady took out a jade plate from her Storage Ring in her fury. After which, she violently broke it and viciously said, “Slut, you dare strike me? My grandfather will not let you off. Once you land in this Miss hands, I will definitely cut your fingers off one at a time!”

The Little Fairy Doctor’s gaze merely glanced at the red-clothed, young lady coldly as the latter cursed viciously. Immediately, a faint indifferent voice was transmitted from beside her ear.

“Hit her again. With such a vicious heart, leaving her be will only lead to a calamity...”

The corner of the Little Fairy Doctor’s mouth curled when she heard this. She immediately raised her hand once again in front of the shocked eyes of the red-clothed, young lady and unceremoniously gave her a tight slap.

Slap!

This slap had just landed when a gray-colored light shot over from the center of the city. It immediately appeared in the air above the street. His gaze swept under him. A majestic aura suddenly surged out and swept in all directions. A dark, solemn voice reverberated unceasingly throughout the street.

“The actions of the few of you really look down on my Luo clan!”

Chapter 942: Rank 6

The numerous gazes on the street were immediately turned up when they heard the rumbling somber voice that was transmitted from the blue sky. Exclamations quickly sounded on the street.

“It is actually the ancestor of the Luo clan?”

“He has actually personally come? It looks like this old fellow really dotes on Luo Xiao Yao.”

“Looks like there will be a nice show today...”

While everyone was noisy, the gray and white old men became startled when they saw the person who had arrived. They hurriedly and respectfully said, “Welcome ancestor.”

The hearts of the two laughed bitterly while they spoke with their mouths. They never expected the eldest young lady to break her Heart Blood Jade Pendant. That thing was something the ancestor had personally made for her. She was told not to use it unless it was a critical moment. It was unexpected that she actually took this thing out over such a small matter. No wonder the ancestor had come so quickly. It was likely that he thought that this young lady had met with a life-threatening situation.

A blue-robed old man stood in the empty sky. His face was somewhat broad, giving him a mighty appearance even without the presence of anger. Clearly, he was someone who had occupied a high position for a long time. He merely nodded randomly at the greetings of the two before his gaze immediately turned to the red-clothed, young lady. He sighed in relief when he saw the purple-red fingerprint on her face. At the same time, a fury flashed across his eyes. His gaze turned to Xiao Yan’s group as he slowly said, “The few of you look really foreign. You should be people from outside of Horizon City, no?”

“Grandpa... they are bullying granddaughter. You must seek justice for me!”

Before waiting for Xiao Yan's group to speak, the red-clothed, young lady's small mouth immediately became deflated upon seeing the blue-robed, old man. Tears rolled down her cheeks. The grievances she had felt today were more than any previous years. Since when did a tender girl like her receive such a treatment. Moreover, the ice-cold killing intent in the Little Fairy Doctor's eyes also caused her to feel goosebumps all over her body. She seemed to possess a support now that she saw the old man appear. Her finger was pointing toward Xiao Yan.

"You don't want your finger?"

The Little Fairy Doctor faintly asked when she saw this action of the red-clothed, young lady.

Fear flashed across the red-clothed, young lady's face when she heard this. She hurriedly withdrew her hand, finally feeling a little afraid of the merciless Little Fairy Doctor.

Chi! Chi!

Quite a number of rushing wind sounds appeared during this delay. Immediately, over ten figures appeared on top of the buildings on both sides of the street. All of these people respectfully greeted the blue-robed, old man the moment they revealed themselves. After which, they saw the current situation. With some thoughts, they understood what had happened. Immediately, one of them coldly cried out, "Your guts are really quite great for you to dare attack a member of our Luo clan in Horizon City!"

Xiao Yan's expression finally began to slowly turn cold in the face of these experts from the Luo clan. Originally, he had no intention of offending the factions in this place. Today's matter had originally been an inconsequential little thing. However, the other party wanted to make it into such a big one. Moreover, they had repeatedly challenged his patience. Although this ancestor of the Luo clan was an elite five star Dou Zong, he did not pose much of a threat to Xiao Yan. Forget about the Little Fairy Doctor being able to fight him. His Storage Ring also possessed an Earth Demon Puppet that could contend with a six star Dou Zong. If the

other party wished to push their luck, they should not blame him for being too vicious.

“By teaching such an unreasonable younger generation, you elders are likely no better.” The Little Fairy Doctor glanced at the middle-aged man who had spoken earlier as she coldly laughed. She took a step forward and a majestic aura that was not inferior to the ancestor of the Luo clan suddenly erupted like a mountain rising from the plains, causing the faces of a countless number of people to change.

“An elite Dou Zong?”

Numerous exclamations sounded in the street. Stunned gazes immediately looked back to the plain-clothed lady. It was the first time that they had seen such a young elite Dou Zong. At this moment, the face of the red-clothed, young lady paled a little. She understood just how powerful an elite Dou Zong was. Even with their Luo clan’s strength, they were unable to easily offend one.

Compared to the shock of everyone else, the expression of the Luo clan’s ancestor changed even more drastically. He clearly sensed that the strength of this lady was not the least bit weaker than him. There was even a strange, dark coldness within her aura. If they were to exchange blows, it was likely that he would not have a high chance of victory.

“Dammit, since when did such an expert appear in Horizon City. This girl Xiao Yao is really becoming more and more overboard. Looks like I will need to properly discipline her in the future. Otherwise, if she were to offend an opponent that cannot be offended, it would definitely be a calamity for our Luo clan!”

The gaze of the ancestor of the Luo clan looking at the red-clothed, young lady had suddenly become much sterner as his expression changed. Immediately, he turned his gaze and looked to Xiao Yan’s group. His tone had become gentler without him realizing it. “Everyone, today’s matter is indeed Xiao Yao’s fault. I, Luo Cheng, will apologize on behalf of her.”

“Hmph, the granddaughter of a little Luo clan has actually been taught to be more unruly than me...” Zi Yan glanced at the ancestor of the Luo

clan before snorting. She had disliked that red-clothed, young lady from the beginning. It should be known that even she had never scolded Xiao Yan in such a manner. What right did this girl, with big breasts and no brain, have?”

The ancestor of the Luo clan turned his gaze to Zi Yan. A solemnness also flashed across his eyes. Dou Huang? A Dou Huang that appeared to be around fourteen or fifteen years old? Why did this girl appear to be even more frightening than that white-clothed, young lady?

This thought flew through the heart of the Luo clan’s ancestor. He no longer dared to look down on the other side. From the flow of his thoughts, it was difficult to reach this stage at such a young age with just talent alone. Hence, they should have an extremely powerful faction supporting them from behind. Therefore, they were people that could not be easily offended...

“We have been a laughing stock in front of the few of you. The old me will disciple this granddaughter properly in the future.” The ancestor of the Luo clan sighed awkwardly before waving his hand. He solemnly ordered, “Bring Xiao Yao back!”

The experts from the Luo clan did not dare to speak when they saw the somewhat ugly expression of Luo Cheng. They were not fools. Naturally, they could tell that this seemingly young group possessed an extremely strong strength. Even the ancestor was unwilling to easily offend them.

“Looks like the suffering the girl has endured today has been for nothing, but it’s just as well. Treat it as a lesson learned...” The couple of experts from the Luo clan interacted with each other. They let out a bitter laugh before flashing forward to forcefully grab the red-clothed, young lady. Aware that she had caused a lot of trouble, the red-clothed, young lady did not dare to even grumble as she allowed herself to be brought away by the few people without daring to resist.

“Go!”

Xiao Yan’s expression was calm as he watched this enactment. Only after the red-clothed, young lady was brought away did he speak in a faint

voice. After speaking, he headed to the outside of the street. The Little Fairy Doctor and the other two followed close behind.

Luo Cheng's eyes solidified when he saw this scene. Clearly, it appeared that the black-robed, young man was the one in charge of this person group. The remaining people, whether it was the white-clothed woman or the somewhat strange purple-haired little girl, all obeyed him.

"Ke ke, this friend, may I get you to stay awhile?" A thought appeared in Luo Cheng's heart as he hurriedly descended and appeared in front of Xiao Yan. After which he spoke in a smiling manner.

"Is there a matter?" Xiao Yan's footsteps paused as he randomly asked.

"Friends, have you come to Horizon City because of the Wormhole?" Luo Cheng smiled as he inquired. His face was quite courteous. This caused the people watching the scene to be at a loss for words. The number of people who could be treated by the ancestor of the Luo clan in this manner could be counted with one's fingers.

"I am aware that the Wormhole of Horizon City has some problems. Old mister Luo has also come because of this, right?" Xiao Yan smiled faintly and asked.

"It is really refreshing to speak to someone who understands. The old me shall not beat around the bush. The problem of the Horizon City's Wormhole this time around is quite great. It is difficult to repair with my strength alone. Hence, I wish to ask this young lady to lend a hand. Is that possible?" Luo Cheng's gaze turned to the Little Fairy Doctor, cupped his hands together, and made a request.

The Little Fairy Doctor did not reply when she heard this. She merely turned her eyes to Xiao Yan.

"Reward." Xiao Yan uttered a simple word.

Luo Cheng was choked by Xiao Yan's direct request. He bitterly smiled and said, "If the Wormhole can be repaired, the few of you will also be able to successfully enter it. Otherwise, there is no second Wormhole within a thousand kilometer radius of this place."

Xiao Yan shook his head. If the matter earlier had not happened, it would have been fine to lend a hand depending on the situation. However, with the experience earlier, he would really be unhappy if he did not get the other party to bleed a little.

Luo Cheng appeared to be aware of the thoughts in Xiao Yan's heart after seeing the way he acted. His bitter smile grew even denser. After hesitating for a moment, he finally clenched his teeth and said, "Why don't we do it like this. My Luo clan is renowned for trading Monster Cores. If this young miss can really help the old me repair the Wormhole, the old me shall gift her a rank 7 Monster Core. As long as my Luo clan possesses it, you will be allowed to choose the affinity of the Monster Core and the species it belonged to. What do you say?"

"Rank 7 Monster Core?" Xiao Yan's heart was attracted the moment he heard this. His finger gently rubbed his Storage Ring, and he glanced at the Little Fairy Doctor before randomly asking, "May I know if your clan possess the Monster Core of the Sky Poison Dragon Scorpion Beast?"

"Sky Poison Dragon Scorpion Beast?" Luo Cheng was startled. He mused for a moment before shaking his head and saying, "This kind of Magical Beast is a unique beast from ancient times. It is extremely difficult to obtain its Monster Core. My Luo clan really does not possess a rank 7 Sky Poison Dragon Scorpion Beast's Monster Core."

Although Xiao Yan did not hold much hope, disappointment still involuntarily flashed across his eyes. During his disappointment, Luo Cheng hesitated for a moment before probingly asking, "My Luo clan does not have the Monster Core of a rank 7 Sky Poison Dragon Scorpion Beast. However, it has a rank 6 one. May I know if it will do?"

"Rank 6?"

The somewhat disappointed eyes of Xiao Yan earlier had suddenly become heated upon hearing these words.

Chapter 943: Repair

Xiao Yan felt quite surprised that this Luo clan was really able to take out a Sky Poison Dragon Scorpion Beast Monster Core as recompense. Although the rank of this Monster Core was one rank lower than the one that he required, it was after all a similar object no matter how one put it. The final effect might be a little poorer since it was a rank lower, but at the very least, if they were unable to find a rank 7 Sky Poison Dragon Scorpion Beast, this thing would be the final life saving grass.

At the very least, with a rank 6 Sky Poison Dragon Scorpion Beast Monster Core as a spare, they would not end up in a dead end if they really ended up reaching that stage.

Xiao Yan's gaze exchanged looks with the Little Fairy Doctor. He nodded slightly and said, "Although it has not reached our requirements, we can accept a rank 6 one."

Luo Cheng sighed in relief when he heard this. The Sky Poison Dragon Scorpion Beast was extremely rare and its Monster Core was even harder to find. He really did not know just who sold this rank 6 Monster Core to the Luo clan, but it eventually ended up in their collection. Their Luo clan had already gotten a cheap deal by being able to use a rank 6 Monster Core to get an expert, with similar strength to the ancestor, to lend a hand.

"Ha ha, everyone, please follow me. With the help of this young lady, I think that it is possible to repair the Wormhole by today." Luo Cheng smiled as he spoke. He immediately cupped his hands together, turned around, and led the way in front. Xiao Yan hesitated a little before following behind him.

Xiao Yan's four person group followed behind Luo Cheng as they penetrated the enormous Horizon City. Perhaps it was because they had come for the first time, but Luo Cheng did not increase his pace. While he walked, he introduced some of the renowned shops within Horizon City to Xiao Yan's group. This candid and talkative manner made him seem like a completely different person from the one that they had initially met.

Walking behind Luo Cheng, Xiao Yan's group was not too receptive of Luo Cheng's unceasing words. Despite the obscurity of this old fellow's words, Xiao Yan could still sense that he was trying to inquire about their background during the conversation.

Xiao Yan had met many old foxes. Hence, he also understood the principle of letting the tongue slip if one talked too much. Therefore, he vaguely replied some of his questions and did not give Luo Cheng any chance to probe into his background. After a couple of such conversations, Luo Cheng, who failed to gain anything, could only laugh bitterly in his heart. He withdrew the thought of continuing the inquiry.

The few of them spent around half an hour passing through half of Horizon City before a black rock plaza that occupied an enormous amount of space appeared in Xiao Yan's sight.

The size of the plaza was extremely vast. It was completely built using some kind of black rock. A faint tough feeling was emitted from its coldness. At this moment, the Plaza had been sealed off by the many guards of the Luo clan. There was an extremely powerful spatial strength spreading from a towering rock platform located within the plaza.

With Luo Cheng opening a path, Xiao Yan's group entered the plaza without a hinderance. After which, they followed him as they walked along the towering rock stairs, slowly climbing up. A couple of minutes later, all of them appeared on the rock platform.

This rock platform coincidentally occupied the middle of the plaza. When the group swept their eyes around, they were able to absorb the scene within a few hundred meters of the plaza into their eyes. Other than some experts from the Luo clan, there were currently two old men who did not appear to be members of the Luo clan standing on the rock platform at this moment. The aura of the two of them was quite strong. Although they were inferior to Luo Cheng and the Little Fairy Doctor, they were also genuine elite Dou Zong. According to Xiao Yan's guess, they were likely the helpers that Luo Cheng had invited.

The expressions of the two old men were cold and indifferent. Their eyes

faintly revealed some arrogance. However, the members of the Luo clan around could only face them with smiling faces. They did not dare to slight these two even a little.

Xiao Yan's gaze swept briefly across these people before turning to the middle spot of the rock platform. A dark-black spatial hole, at least a hundred feet in size, was slowly rotating at that spot. Waves of shocking spatial strength overflowed from it, causing one's expression to change. However, it seemed that there was signs of chaos in the spatial strength at this moment.

"Is this that Wormhole? It is indeed an extremely expensive thing..." The dark-black spatial hole was just like a black hole, emitting an unusual suction force. Looking from a distance, one could only see a never-ending darkness and hear an unusual soul-stirring whistle.

Xiao Yan's group, who had climbed onto the rock platform, had naturally attracted everyone's attention immediately. Upon seeing Luo Cheng, the two old men with a somewhat arrogant air cupped their hands toward him. The arrogance on their faces was withdrawn a little. Their strength had just reached that of a two star Dou Zong. There was a big gap when compared to a person like Luo Cheng who had been in the Dou Zong class for decades.

"Ha ha, these two are Old Han and Old Shi. They are also quite renowned figures within a thousand kilometer radius of Horizon City. They have also been invited by the old me to help repair the Wormhole." Su Qian smiled as he walked closer. He pointed to the two old men and smiled as he spoke to Xiao Yan.

After saying this, Luo Cheng's turned his gaze to the two old men and smiled as he said, "These few young friends are also helpers that the old me has invited."

"Helpers? Old Luo, although I know that you really wish to repair this Wormhole as soon as possible, but you need not find such young people, do you? Don't you trust the two of us?" Before Xiao Yan's group could speak, the two prideful-looking old men frowned and spoke with

displeasure upon hearing Luo Cheng's words.

"Two people who are only lingering at the initial stage of the Dou Zong class actually speak with such arrogance. Aren't you afraid of biting your tongues." Zi Yan curled her mouth with disdain as she spoke. She was the first to become furious after being underestimated in such a manner.

"Where has this little girl come from? Don't randomly come and get involved here." The two old men frowned. Their expressions changed a little when their gazes swept over Zi Yan. Clearly, they had seen something surprising in Zi Yan. Even their tone had also changed slightly.

Xiao Yan was too lazy to bother about these old fellows with proud eyes. He turned to the Little Fairy Doctor and faintly said, "Go and take a look. We will not be delayed if it can be repaired quickly."

The Little Fairy Doctor tilted her head. After which, she slowly stepped forward. As her feet moved, the majestic aura that was deep within her body once again swept out like floodwater, causing everyone else on the rock platform, besides Luo Cheng and Xiao Yan's group, to be stunned.

"This girl is actually also an elite Dou Zong? It is really unbelievable... no wonder she was invited by the ancestor."

The many Luo clan members on the rock platform involuntarily exclaimed with changed expressions on their faces, full of great shock.

Compared to them, the ones with the most embarrassed expressions were the two old men. With their strength, they could naturally sense that the Little Fairy Doctor's ability was comparable to Luo Cheng's after she had unleashed her aura. She was far stronger than them. They immediately began to quietly cry out bitterly in their hearts.

Luo Cheng quietly mocked the two people in his heart when he saw the embarrassment on the two people's faces. These two fellows were extremely prideful. Other than experts who were stronger than them, it was difficult for anyone to be viewed properly by them. This time around, they had lost quite a lot of face in their carelessness.

"Ha ha, it is but a misunderstanding. Everyone, please do not mind. This

Wormhole is something that a forefather of my Luo clan built. After existing for so many years, the spatial imprint that is present between the two locations has also become a little blurry. It is due to this reason that a problem has occurred. All that the three of you need to do is use spatial strength to deepen the imprint between the two locations. The problem this time around should be resolved after that.” Knowing the importance of the key matter at hand, Luo Cheng did not waste any time. He smilingly opened his mouth and rushed to the main topic.

Xiao Yan’s gaze glanced at the enormous Wormhole in front of him. His finger rubbed his ring without him noticing it. If Tian Huo zun-zhe was awake, it would likely not be a problem for him to repair the Wormhole alone given his control over spatial strength.

The Little Fairy Doctor and the other two sat cross-legged outside of the Wormhole while Luo Cheng stood at the point where the Wormhole and the rock platform made contact with a solemn expression. His gaze swept over the three people as he spoke in a deep voice, “Please lend me your hand!”

The space around Luo Cheng’s body immediately became distorted after his words sounded. A spatial strength surged out and whizzed toward the interior of the Wormhole. The Little Fairy Doctor and the other two Dou Zongs hesitated a little before forming spatial strengths of various power that forcefully entered the interior of the Wormhole...

The whistle that was emitted from the Wormhole became louder after these four spatial strengths charged in. The suction force, that was spreading out, gradually became stronger. Seeing this situation, the many experts from the Luo clan on the rock platform let out numerous orderly cries. Waves of powerful Dou Qi surged out before immediately agglomerating into an energy barrier outside of the Wormhole, isolating the suction force. Looking at the familiarity of their movements, it was clear that this was not the first time that they had done such a thing.

Xiao Yan’s gaze stared intently at the Wormhole. He only sighed in relief a moment later, after failing to discover anything wrong. After which, he sat down and began to quietly wait.

The time required to repair the Wormhole was not as long as Xiao Yan had expected. After around one to two hours, the Little Fairy Doctor's group, who had their eyes shut, slowly opened them. A thread of paleness also drifted onto their faces. Clearly, repairing this Wormhole exhausted them.

The movement of the slowly rotating space shook slightly as the few of them recovered. Immediately, threads of silver lingered around the Wormhole. Looking from a distance, it appeared as though they were stars within a black hole. Moreover, the chaotic spatial strength that had been transmitted from within slowly scattered.

"It is finally completely repaired. Ha ha, all three of you, thank you. I, Luo Cheng, will remember this favor..." Luo Cheng let out a loud hearty laugh as he sensed the Wormhole gradually recovering its normal state. He turned around, cupped his hands toward, the Little Fairy Doctor and the other two, before speaking sincerely.

"Are you alright?" Xiao Yan swiftly got up, arrived beside the Little Fairy Doctor, and softly inquired.

"Aye... I'm only a little exhausted. It was not very difficult to repair this Wormhole." The Little Fairy Doctor nodded slightly and smiled as she replied.

"This friend. This is the remuneration that the old me promised." Luo Cheng waved his hand and a jade box flew toward Xiao Yan.

Xiao Yan randomly caught the jade box in his hand. He opened it and a purple-red-colored oval-shaped Monster Core appeared in his eyes. His finger touched the Monster Core and sensed the energy affinity within it. A moment later, Xiao Yan nodded. Although he had never seen the Monster Core of a Sky Poison Dragon Scorpion Beast, the affinity that was recorded was similar to this...

Xiao Yan stored the jade box into his Storage Ring. His heart also sighed in relief. His gaze was thrown to the Wormhole as he softly asked, "Can the Wormhole be used now?"

"There should not be a problem. However, the old me still advises you to

wait a period of time. After all, it has just been fixed. It is not really secure leaving now..." Luo Cheng hesitated a little upon hearing the question before replying.

"There is no need. We still have some urgent matters and cannot stay for long..." Xiao Yan shook his head as he responded. He did not wish to stay in this Horizon City for long. Moreover, he was somewhat anxious to reach the Central Plains.

Luo Cheng could only nod his head in disappointment when he heard this. He took a palm-sized wooden boat out of his Storage Ring. The wooden boat was faintly emitting a silver glow. This thing hid a thread of an extremely weak spatial strength.

"This is a Space Boat used to travel the Wormhole. Its manufacturing process is quite expensive. Each of one costs over a million and an ordinary person really cannot afford to use it. This young miss has helped my Luo clan greatly today. Our Luo clan can be considered to have taken advantage by just giving a rank 6 Monster Core. This small thing shall be considered a thank you gift." Luo Cheng smiled, and gave a simple explanation as he handed the wooden boat to Xiao Yan.

Xiao Yan's gaze was somewhat surprised as he glanced at this wooden boat. It was the first time that he had heard of the so-called Space Boat. Immediately, he felt things were somewhat comical. He laughed and received it without rejection.

"In that case, thank you Old mister Luo. I will personally visit and thank you if I return in the future." Xiao Yan cupped his hands to Luo Cheng. He ceased hesitating and waved his hand at Zi Yan and Xin Lan. After which, the four people paused outside the Wormhole before finally stepping into it at the same time...

The four figures instantly disappeared the moment they stepped into the Wormhole at the same time. A silver glow slowly spread before flashing into the dark-black space...

Luo Cheng smacked his mouth as he watched the four figures disappear. He sighed, "I wonder just which faction these few people belong to. I seem

to have never heard of such a young elite Dou Zong within a thousand kilometer radius... could they be people from the Central Plains?"

Luo Cheng frowned slightly when his words reached the end. He immediately sighed again before turning around and descending the rock stairs. Everyone hurriedly followed behind him. Only some guards remained stationed in this place.

The rock platform also became quiet after everyone scattered. Only that enormous Wormhole emitted some bright silver glows at a steady pace, connected with an interesting part of the continent...

Chapter 944: Space Storm

The sight of Xiao Yan's group suddenly turned black the instant they stepped into the Wormhole. Their bodies abruptly felt like they had lost their weight. However, this feeling swiftly disappeared an instant later. Immediately, a strange space tunnel appeared within their sight.

The thing that appeared in front of Xiao Yan's group was a space tunnel, that one could not see the end of. On the two sides of the tunnel was a faint silver-colored space barrier. There were over ten tunnels that were ten feet in size within the space walls. The ends of the tunnels were a deep blackness. The upper and lower parts of the tunnels were a similar darkness that caused one to feel some fear. A dense spatial ripple faintly seeped out from them. The entire tunnel was dead quiet without even the slightest sound.

Xiao Yan involuntarily felt absent-minded upon seeing this kind of space tunnel for the first time despite his usual calmness. His gaze slowly looked over the barrier formed by spatial strength on both sides of the tunnel. Outside of it was a never ending darkness. No one knew just what kind of scene was present there.

"Big brother Xiao Yan, take out the Space Boat that the ancestor of the Luo clan has given you. That thing's flying speed in this place is quite fast. With it, we will only need twenty days or so before we can arrive in the Central Plains." Xin Lan suddenly spoke and broke this dead silence.

Xiao Yan also recovered after hearing this. He shook his hand and the Space Boat appeared in it. This thing had just appeared when it moved like a fish that had just entered the water and expanded with the wind. Within a couple of blinks, it had transformed into a ten-foot -large boat in front of Xiao Yan's stunned eyes. The surface of the boat had threads of a faint-silver-colored spatial strength flowing over it, causing it to appear extremely mysterious.

"Tsk tsk. This thing actually possesses such a use... no wonder it is so expensive to build." Xiao Yan's mouth immediately emitted a clicking

exclamation as he looked at this change. His body leaped and he took the lead to step onto this boat. The curious Zi Yan and two others swiftly followed behind him.

“There is an input point at the helm of the boat. As long as some Dou Qi is poured into it, it will enable this space boat to fly within this space tunnel. This space boat is really a good thing. There are factions and shops in the Central Plains that specialize in selling such things. There, the Space Boats are differentiated by grades. Grade nine is the highest while grade one is the lowest. From the looks of this Space Boat, it seems that it should be around grade four or so.” Xin Lan smiled lovingly as she explained

Xiao Yan glanced at the front of the boat with surprise. He nodded before looking at the space barrier on both sides. He asked, “This thing won’t end up getting out will it?”

“No, it won’t happen. The Space Boat can only be used within the space tunnel. It is completely useless outside. Moreover, as long as one maintains a straight flying route, nothing will usually happen... Of course, nothing is for certain. Danger exists no matter where one travels. Moreover, this place also hides many dangers when one travels here... however, there is an extremely low chance of one meeting with it. I have never met such a thing during the many times that I have used Wormholes.” Xin Lan explained.

Xiao Yan sighed in relief in his heart when he heard this. He sat cross-legged at the front of the boat. He turned his head to Zi Yan and the rest, “In that case, everyone should sit tight. Now... the journey begins!”

Xiao Yan waved his hand as his words sounded. A powerful Dou Qi surged out before entering the input point. Immediately, the entire boat shook. Finally, a pushing force shot out from the tail of the ship. With a ‘xiu’ sound, the space boat transformed into a silver light that cut through space in a lightning-like manner as it shot explosively into the empty darkness...

The speed of the space boat was extremely frightening within the space

tunnel. It was not overboard to describe it as something that chased the stars and moon. Xiao Yan's group could only see the two silver-colored space walls moving flying back with a 'xiu xiu' sound as they sat within the boat. This kind of speed caused one's eyes to be dazzled.

A silver glow quietly flashed within the quiet space tunnel. An instant later, it disappeared into the end of the darkness. That appearance was as though it was a lonely traveller in space...

The so-called Wormhole was a connection between two locations that allowed the distance between them to become extremely short. According to what Xin Lan had said, they should be able to reach the Central Plains after twenty days or so with their speed. If they were to travel in the real world, it was likely that they would have required at least half a year in order to reach the Central Plains from Horizon City.

After the initial freshness, the journey had once again become dull. Zi Yan could no longer endure boredom after snatching the boat to play for a couple of hours. She returned it back to Xiao Yan, entered the cabin, and slept.

Xiao Yan did not dare to randomly enter his training condition while journeying in this kind of space tunnel, filled with unknown danger. In any case, his current strength was more than sufficient to maintain the support of the space boat. Hence, he did not train even once during the remaining traveling period. He would slowly recover the exhausted Dou Qi by occasionally consuming a medicinal pill.

Although the speed within the space tunnel was far faster than the outside world, the dullness was also even greater. The uniform blackness would cause someone mentally weak to feel some irritation within their heart after seeing it for a long time. It was fortunate that Xiao Yan was not the only person present in this place. Otherwise, that dullness would likely have caused even him to feel a little depressed.

Time quietly disappeared during this kind of dullness...

A silver glow flashed past within this faint silver-colored space tunnel. On it, a black-robed, young man mechanically raised his hand and a wave

of Dou Qi surged out.

“Let me take over.” A gentle voice suddenly sounded behind Xiao Yan. He was startled. He turned his head and saw that the Little Fairy Doctor had appeared behind him. He smiled and said, “How many days has it been since we entered the space tunnel?”

“Sixteen days. We should be able to reach our destination after a couple more days.” The Little Fairy Doctor smiled as she answered him. After which, she slowly walked up to Xiao Yan and sat cross-legged behind him. A wave of Dou Qi pillar whizzed out and immediately lingered over the energy input.

Xiao Yan smiled when he saw this. He withdrew his hand into his sleeve as a tiredness flashed across his eyes. Although this period of traveling did not exhaust too much of his Dou Qi, he was extremely tired mentally.

Xiao Yan inhaled a deep breath and slowly lay his body down. His hand cupped the back of his head as his eyes watched the endless blackness. A moment later, he slightly turned his head, looked at the graceful curves under the white dress beside him and smiled. He said, “Currently, we have gathered all the things needed to control the Woeful Poison Body. However, due to that rank 6 Sky Poison Dragon Scorpion Beast, it is likely that it will be unable to attain a perfect effect. I am also not very certain if there will be any sequelae. Hence, I suggest that we still try our best to follow the requirements of the Poison Pill for safety’s sake and obtain that rank 7 Sky Poison Dragon Scorpion Beast. We will deal with the Woeful Poison Body after that. Unless it is a critical moment, it is best not to use that rank 6 Monster Core.”

“Yes, it is up to you to decide on this matter...” The Little Fairy Doctor nodded her snow-white chin and gently responded. Although her strength was much higher than Xiao Yan’s, it seemed that the one who was making the decisions over these matters was always Xiao Yan. She did not reject such a feeling.

“Hmm, as a friend, I am really extremely dutiful...” Xiao Yan raised his head to the sky and sighed. His voice contained a teasing tone.

The Little Fairy Doctor suddenly smiled when she heard Xiao Yan's words. She immediately rotated her eyes, glanced at Xiao Yan and softly said, "Is it... just friends huh..."

"Huh?"

Xiao Yan was stunned by the Little Fairy Doctor's words. His exchanged looks with her. After which, his eyes involuntarily drifted away. In an instant, the atmosphere at the front of the boat had become a little strange.

"Bang!"

This kind of strange atmosphere did not last long before it was broken by the sudden intense shaking of the boat. Xiao Yan and the Little Fairy Doctor were startled. They hurriedly raised their heads. With solemn faces, they discovered that the two sides of the space tunnel not far in front, where the walls of the tunnel formed from spatial strength were, had become much weaker. At a glance one could even see the nothing blackness outside of the tunnel.

"What has happened."

A startled exclamation sounded from within the cabin. Zi Yan and Xin Lan hurriedly ran out. With a sweep of their gaze, they noticed the much weaker space walls.

"The space walls here have yet to be completely repaired. An external force has broken the equilibrium within the tunnel. Be careful. An external strength has broken the equilibrium of the Wormhole..." Xin Lan spoke in a deep voice.

"Nothing will happen, will it?" Xiao Yan frowned and asked.

"This... it's uncertain. If the space walls become illusory, it is extremely easy for a space storm to occur. Should we be pulled into the nothingness space by the storm, it is extremely difficult for us to escape alive unless we are elite Dou Zuns..." Xin Lan hesitated a little before speaking with a bitter smile, "Now we can only hope that we will not meet that damn thing. According to our speed we should reach the Central Plains soon."

Xiao Yan knit his brows even more tightly when he heard this. He turned his head to the Little Fairy Doctor, “Slow the speed a little. Be careful of the suction force that is transmitted from outside the space walls.”

The Little Fairy Doctor’s expression also became serious. A majestic Dou Qi surged out of her body. It immediately wrapped around the boat. After which, the boat swiftly rushed through the space tunnel.

Xiao Yan’s group spent the next two days in an extremely nervous manner. This was because the space walls had become more and more illusionary. Dark-black empty space had even appeared in some spots. The suction force that was transmitted from the holes would likely have sucked them in had the Little Fairy Doctor not used her Dou Qi to stabilize the boat. Despite this, the journey was still extremely soul-stirring.

Fortunately, despite things being trilling, the so-called Space Storm did not appear. Xiao Yan’s group slowly sighed in relief because of this. However, on the last day, when they thought that things would continue to be smooth...A clear cracking sound and an unusual whistling wind suddenly sounded, causing their expressions to become unusually ugly...

Chapter 945: Frightening Tunnel

The thing that appeared in front of Xiao Yan's group was a storm that had formed from silver-colored spatial strength. It coincidentally sealed off the entire tunnel. The turbulent suction force that was transmitted from the silver-colored storm caused the space boat, Xiao Yan was in, to repeatedly tremble, sort of feeling as though it was about to crumble.

"Space Storm..."

Xin Lan muttered to herself. Her expression had become much paler as she stared at the raging silver-colored storm within the tunnel. It was unexpected that this unlucky thing had still appeared.

"Is this the Space Storm... it is indeed quite terrifying. Such a powerful spatial strength is something that even an elite Dou Zong would have difficulty displaying..." Xiao Yan's eyes stared intently at the silver-colored storm, that was like an enormous python, as he slowly spoke.

"What do we do now?" The Little Fairy Doctor's eyebrows were vertical as she asked.

"We can only forcefully charge through it. According to my guess, we should not be far from the exit. As long as we can reach the exit, we will be able to escape the Space Storm." Xin Lan forcefully suppressed the thread of terror within her heart as she gave a suggestion.

Xiao Yan knit his brows slightly when he heard this. He looked at the Space Storm that was gradually spinning toward them. A moment later, he sighed and said in a deep voice, "Little Fairy Doctor, prepare to charge forward. You will protect the body of the ship. I will control its speed!"

"Yes." The Little Fairy Doctor nodded. She did not say anything else as her lovely body drifted back. Majestic Dou Qi surged out in all directions, transforming into a giant grayish-purple python. The enormous python wrapped the ship within its body before raising its head and hissing at the sky.

"Go! Zi Yan, Xin Lan, hold on tight!" A deep cry was transmitted from

Xiao Yan's mouth. Immediately, he waved his sleeves and powerful Dou Qi was poured into the space boat. Finally, it transformed into a fierce pushing force that caused the space boat to shoot off like an arrow with a 'xiu' sound.

After forcing the boat to its maximum speed, the space boat transformed into a faint-silver-colored figure. With a flash, it leaped a thousand meters before finally running headlong into the raging silver storm.

Bang! Bang!

The space boat had just charged into the storm when the body of the boat began to vibrate. Creaking sounds were repeatedly emitted, as though it was a lonely boat navigating a great storm, facing the miserable fate of being shattered.

Xiao Yan's expression gradually turned gloomier as he sensed the frightening tearing force that was emitted from the space storm. It was fortunate that the Little Fairy Doctor was strong. If it had been some other person, it was likely that they would have difficulty blocking this kind of spatial tearing. Even though this was the case, the Little Fairy Doctor would definitely not be able to last long. Hence, he needed to charge out of this damn place as soon as possible.

This thought flashed across Xiao Yan's heart as he violently clenched his teeth. More powerful Dou Qi shot out. The speed of the space boat was gradually raised to its limit. Threads of faint-silver-colored Spatial Force flickered repeatedly like a light...

The space boat's small figure was insignificant within the enormous space storm. Even though Xiao Yan had unleashed the boat's maximum, the tearing force of the surrounding space was not reduced at all. Instead, it became even more terrifying. In the end, the enormous grayish-purple energy python, that had been wrapped around the space boat, began to show signs of becoming illusionary. Clearly, even the Little Fairy Doctor had difficulty completely blocking the wild and violent suction of space.

"Zi Yan, help her!" Xiao Yan cried out in a deep voice. His eyes solidified upon sensing the intense bumps that were being transmitted from the

body of the ship.

Zi Yan did not pipe up with any nonsense when she heard Xiao Yan's cry. Her small hands swiftly formed numerous seals that left one dazzled. Immediately, waves from a strange purple-colored glow surged out of her body.

With the help of this crystal glow, Zi Yan's small body suddenly began to swiftly grow. Her purple hair also grew like wild grass. In a mere instant, she transformed into someone with hair similar to a purple-colored waterfall, extending to her buttocks. Zi Yan had used a Secret Technique during this critical moment, enabling her strength to be raised to its peak...

When Zi Yan became that sexy purple-haired beauty, the aura that spreading from her body greatly rose. In the end, it faintly exceeded Xiao Yan's aura.

“Condensate Spirit!”

A clear cry was transmitted from Zi Yan's mouth. A bright purple glow shot from the top of her head. It vaguely agglomerated and formed an extremely large mysterious beast spirit. Due to Zi Yan's purple light being too bright, it was difficult to clearly see the appearance of that beast spirit.

This purple-colored beast spirit had just appeared when it let out a soul-stirring roar toward the sky. The voice transformed into faint purple-colored sonic waves that repeatedly spread out in all directions, suppressing the tearing strength of the space storm.

The pressure the Little Fairy Doctor was immediately reduced with Zi Yan's help. Her pretty face was tensed as she diverted some attention to swiftly repair the enormous energy python that had been shattered by the space-tearing strength.

Xiao Yan's face eased slightly as he sensed the somewhat calmer boat. However, he did not relax even a little within his heart. He knew that the tearing strength of the storm would become even more frightening. It was only the beginning!

The calmness did not last very long just as Xiao Yan had expected. An even more intense bump struck once again. The wild and violent Spatial Strength was just like numerous poisonous snakes, snapping at people as they surged out from within the storm. They violently bit at the enormous energy python wrapped around the boat. Under the powerful pushing force, the creaking sound that was emitted from the space boat became more and more intense.

Xiao Yan's face was filled with a solemnness. A moment later, his throat suddenly emitted a low roar. Both of his hands pressed on the energy input point at the front of the ship as waves of Dou Qi followed his arms and surged out like a wave of water...

Xiao Yan went all out to maintain the speed and prevent the boat from being pulled into the empty space by the storm. The purple glow outside Zi Yan's body also became denser. In the end, her toes appeared to be half an inch above the boat. A crystal layer like purple-colored glow slowly spread out from her palm before lingering outside of the boat.

A strange scene started to occur when this purple-colored light aura appeared. The wild and violent spatial strength pouncing over was being reflected back by the crystal glow. After which, they continued to collide with the spatial strength. Explosive sounds appeared, causing the illusionary space to become extremely distorted.

The purple-colored crystalline glow was effective. However, it exhausted Zi Yan very quickly. Hence, the crystal glow continued for a short few minutes before it ended up shattering. Zi Yan's throat also emitted a low muffled groan as a thread of fresh blood followed the corner of her mouth and seeped down. Her gem-like eyes had become much dimmer.

"Big brother Xiao Yan, we are about to reach the exit!"

Xin Lan's joyful voice was just like a heart tonic while everyone was clenching their teeth and enduring. Xiao Yan raised his head and did indeed see a silver-colored light circle suddenly appearing in the distant darkness. That place was the exit of the Wormhole!

"Bang!"

Before Xiao Yan's group could let out a joyful cry at having seen the exit, an unusually frightening Spatial Strength violently struck the boat. The strength was extremely great. Were it not for the Little Fairy Doctor going all out to maintain the boat, it was likely that it would have been scattered on the spot.

Xiao Yan used a short amount of time to glance behind him. His eyes involuntarily shrank. He saw that the Space Storm had suddenly become unusually wild and violent at this moment. A frightening suction force surged out in all directions from within the storm. Under that suction force, the space boat speed had swiftly slowed down.

Xiao Yan's eyes turned red upon sensing the speed of the space boat. If they were to be dragged into the storm again, it was likely that their group could forget about getting a chance to escape.

“Roar!”

A low roar was transmitted from Xiao Yan's throat. Numerous green veins appeared on his face in a ferocious manner, looking just like earthworms. Jade-green Dou Qi wildly poured into the interior of the boat like a flame, causing the speed of the space boat to increase a little.

The speed of the space boat had just been increased when the suction force emitted from the storm greatly soared. In an instant, the two ended up in a stalemate. The enormous space storm was slowly moving toward Xiao Yan's group.

“The speed has already reached its maximum. If this continues, we will be dragged back sooner or later!”

Xiao Yan's eyes turned bright-red. He suddenly turned his head and cried out to Zi Yan, “Come and pour Dou Qi in. Increase its speed.”

Zi Yan was shocked by this manner of Xiao Yan. She did not dare to ask any extra questions as she swiftly rushed over. Immediately, her hands were placed on the input point. The energy within her body swiftly surged out.

After Zi Yan replaced him, Xiao Yan shook his shoulders and a pair of

enormous bone wings were spread out. The bone wings immediately moved and he flew away from the space boat in front of Xin Lan's stunned eyes. After which, he landed on the tail of the boat and waved his sleeves. A frightening wind surged out of his sleeve before striking the boat, pushing the space boat forward.

The instant Xiao Yan pushed the space boat, a counter force caused Xiao Yan's body to be momentarily stilled. However, it was fortunate that his reaction was fast. Bright lightning flashed under his feet. The bone wings were flapped wildly under the sound wave of muffled thunder, blocking the suction force that was transmitted from behind. His body chased after the space boat.

The suction force that was transmitted from the Space Storm behind was becoming more and more terrifying. With Zi Yan's strength alone, it was obvious that she had difficulty maintaining the speed, yet the Little Fairy Doctor needed to protect the boat's body. Hence, the space boat that was being pushed forward showed a sign of moving back.

"Bastard!"

Xiao Yan's face was flushed red. His veins repeatedly pulsed. The bone wings on his back were flapped and his body once again appeared at the tail of the space boat. He let out an angry cry as his arms pushed the boat. Wild wind was shot out before violently pushing the boat. One could see the space boat transforming into a silver glow that shot out. The next instant, it appeared at the end of the tunnel. Finally, it flashed forward before disappearing within the silver glow...

Xiao Yan heaved a sigh of relief as he watched the space boat successfully leave. He turned his head slightly and looked at the close storm. The skin on his head involuntarily turned numb. He went all out to flap his bone wings while activating the Three Thousand Lightning Movement to its limit. Numerous afterimages repeatedly appeared. The next instant, the frightening suction force that was transmitted from behind was turned into nothingness...

Xiao Yan had finally approached the exit of the tunnel while fleeing in

this crazy manner. Just when he was about to charge out, his skin suddenly felt a chill. His body immediately pounced to the ground instinctively.

“Xiu!”

A ten-foot-large silver-colored Spatial Strength shot past his head like a silver snake. After which, it struck the exit, causing the silver glow to wildly surge.

Xiao Yan suddenly sensed the many times stronger suction force from behind when the silver glow surged. His heart was startled. The bone wings moved, and he used all his strength, transforming into a silver glow that eventually reached the silver glow, signifying the exit of the tunnel...

Xiao Yan's body had just made contact with the silver glow when it suddenly disappeared. With his disappearance, this space had become void of life once again. Only that enormous Space Storm was still raging, and did not scatter for a long while...

.....

In the middle of a lush, green plain was an open ground filled with rock fragments. The ground in the middle of the open ground was filled with many mysterious seals. These seals were emitting a faint silver glow as they faintly emitted a space ripple.

The open ground was quite quiet. At a certain instant, a wild wind suddenly appeared out of nowhere. A silver-colored light circle surfaced from the middle of the open ground. The figure of a boat flashed out before swiftly becoming smaller. Finally, it revealed three miserable figures on it.

The silver-colored light circle slowly disappeared as the three people landed.

“Where is Xiao Yan? Why is he not out?”

After landing, the Little Fairy Doctor hurriedly asked. Her heart had suddenly turned cold when she saw that his familiar figure was not with them.

At this moment, Zi Yan had once again turned back into the appearance of a little girl. However, her expression was extremely pale at this moment. Her gem-like eyes stared at the place where the silver-colored light circle had disappeared. There was a faint fog gathering there.

Xin Lan was similarly startled for a moment because of this. However, when she saw the flickering silver colored runes on the ground, she finally sighed in relief. She said, “Relax, big brother Xiao Yan has already successfully exited the space tunnel...”

“Where is he then?” The Little Fairy Doctor and Zi Yan had basically opened their mouths at the same time, demanding an answer.

“He has indeed left. However, it seems that the position of the space tunnel had changed at the last moment. Hence... the current him should have been sent to some other spot in the Central Plains... as for where he is no... I, I don’t know either...”

Xin Lan’s stammering voice caused the bodies of the other two to slowly stiffen.

Chapter 946: Han Chong

A wild wind carried grains of sands as it swept through a reddish-yellow desert. The whining sound of howling wind faintly emitted threads of a dark coldness. In this kind of somewhat desolate place, one would be hard pressed to find another human. There was only an endless sandy wind, carrying the sounds of a howl. No tree existed in this area. The dry environment made it difficult for both vegetation and animals to survive. Only pale-yellow wild grass was able to tenaciously live in this desolate place. Under their tiny leaves was an extremely well developed root system that an ordinary person would have difficulty imagining. Their dozens-of-meters-long roots extended deep underground in search of a precious water source. The herdsmen in the desert called them Halii Ya, meaning divine gift. This tenacious vegetation was finding a way to maintain its life.

A wild wind blew past a patch of pale-yellow wild grass in the desert. The wild grasses were bending their bodies. A dark-black human figure was revealed among them.

The clothes on the human figure were tattered and fresh blood covered his body. He was breathing through his nose was extremely weakly. If his chest had not be rising and falling, it was likely that people would have mistaken this for a corpse that had been tossed in the desert.

This corpse, covered in fresh blood, suddenly trembled after being quiet for a long while. His tightly shut eyes slowly opened. The corner of his mouth was involuntarily pulled to form a bitter smile when he heard the howling wind in his ears. Just where the hell did that damn Wormhole send him?

The human figure that appeared like a corpse was Xiao Yan, who had fled the Wormhole. He had not immediately appeared on the ground when he had fled into the light circle back then. Instead, he had been violently mistreated by the Spatial Strength within the silver storm, that had become unusually wild and violent, before being spat out like garbage...

Due to his body having been ruthlessly ravaged by the Spatial Strength, the current Xiao Yan was suffering from a serious internal injury. He did not even possess the strength to stand up. It had already been nearly a day since he had been spat out. He had been lying like a corpse for the entire day, slowly absorbing the natural energy and carefully refilling his greatly damaged body.

Xiao Yan's finger touched his Storage Ring with much difficulty and a medicinal pill appeared. It was slowly placed into his mouth in a quivering manner. After doing this simple action, the interior of Xiao Yan's body suddenly emitted waves of pain, causing some cold perspiration to surface on his forehead. If not for the 'Heavenly Flame' protecting his body, it was likely that his body would have been torn to pieces when faced with that wild and violent Spatial Strength... however, despite this, he was still unlucky enough to enter this seriously injured condition.

"As long as I recover a little Dou Qi, I will be able to heal my injuries. After which, I will refine some medicinal pills and should be able to gradually allow my injuries to be completely healed... hopefully, I will not be unlucky enough to meet a roaming Magical Beast. Even an elite Dou Zong can't do anything to me. Thus, it would be really difficult to accept it if I ended up becoming the food of some Magical Beast..."

Xiao Yan slowly muttered in his heart. He sensed the warm medicinal strength that was spreading around his body. A tiredness once again surged into his head, causing him to gradually shut his eyes. When he was shutting his eyes, he seemed to vaguely hear a noise, an exclamation...

The next time Xiao Yan woke up was because of an intense bump. That bump caused the bones in his body to appear as though they were falling into pieces. The painful feeling expelled the tiredness in his head. After which, he struggled to slowly open his eyes.

A huge ceiling entered his eyes. Xiao Yan's finger gently rubbed the spot under his body as his gaze swept around him. Immediately, he understood where he was. He was in a carriage. In other words, he had been discovered by a passerby on the grass.

Xiao Yan's gaze swept over his body and discovered that the traces of blood had been wiped off. Even the tattered black robe had been changed by someone. The current him was wearing extremely coarse linen clothes.

Xiao Yan looked at the clothes on his body and was stunned for a moment. After which, he suddenly recalled something and hurriedly rubbed his right hand. He only heaved a sigh of relief upon discovering that the Storage Ring was still there.

The curtain of the carriage was pulled apart while Xiao Yan sighed in relief. A eye-piercing light scattered in. Immediately, a middle-aged man with a somewhat strong build appeared in Xiao Yan's sight. He parted his mouth and smiled when he saw that Xiao Yan had awoken. With a somewhat honest and straightforward tone, he asked, "Little brother, have you woken?"

Xiao Yan's eyes swept over the middle-aged man. Although he was seriously injured and the Dou Qi within his body was empty, his Spiritual Strength was still as powerful as before. He immediately saw through this person's strength. The peak of the Dou Ling class. The step to the Dou Wang class was only a short distance.

"Ha ha, our convoy discovered you in a deserted grass patch. Originally, we thought that you wouldn't survive after seeing your injuries. Unexpectedly, you were able to wake up..." The middle-aged man smiled to Xiao Yan and said, "I am called Han Chong, a deacon of the Han clan of the Tian Bei City. This time around, I coincidentally had a mission that made the convoy pass through this deserted desert. That's when we ended up discovering you. It must be said that you are really lucky. There are frequent wolf related disasters within the desert. These beasts are all fierce fellows. Even a normal Dou Shi isn't their match, and many experts have been eaten by them. If they had discovered you, it is likely that you would have been left as a pile of white bones."

"Big brother Han Chong, thank you for rescuing me." Xiao Yan spoke with great gratitude when he heard Han Chong's explanation. Although he was able to gradually recover a little Dou Qi, if he were to continue lying on the ground, he would not be able to summon his Demon Puppet

to protect himself, and no one could be certain whether something would happen during these one to two days. Hence, he really owed this Han Cong a favor for rescuing him.

“It’s fine. When we are outside we should lend a hand if we can. Nothing bad will come from it.” Han Cong smiled as he replied. His gaze swept over Xiao Yan’s body and said, “Moreover, this is all that I can do. I am also helpless when it comes to your injuries. If we arrive in Tian Bei City, it will be possible to invite an alchemist from a medicinal shop to help treat you. However, it would require quite a large amount of gold coins. An ordinary person would really have difficulty affording it. The arrogance of alchemists is really too great, but no one dares offend them. Even the clan leader of my Han clan would have to be courteous when facing those fellows.”

Xiao Yan merely smiled. His injuries were not a problem. Although they were extremely serious, it was basically commonplace for Xiao Yan, who frequently suffered such injuries. As long as he was given some time, it would not be a problem for his injuries to completely heal. This was likely a good thing of being both a warrior and an alchemist. An opponent that could not be killed was the most frightening.

“That’s right, big brother Han Cong. May I inquire if this is the Central Plains?” Xiao Yan hesitated for a moment before abruptly asking. He did not wish for himself to waste his time to pass through the Wormhole only to end up being randomly thrown to another location on the continent.

“Yes, this is the northern region of the Central Plains.” Han Cong nodded his head. He immediately asked with surprise, “Is little brother Xiao Yan not someone from the Central Plains?”

Xiao Yan bitterly laughed. He did not hide anything as he briefly spoke about the matter of the Wormhole.

“So you met with a Space Storm. No wonder your injuries are so serious. However, you can be considered lucky. There are very few people who are able to escape alive after meeting a Space Storm within a Wormhole... our Han clan has a guard platoon that was swallowed by a Space Storm when

they were passing through a Wormhole back then.” Han Cong finally came to a sudden understanding after hearing Xiao Yan’s words. He immediately smacked his mouth and exclaimed.

“The northern region of the Central Plains... may I know which region the Pill Tower is in?” Xiao Yan mused for a moment before continuing to ask.

“The Pill Tower huh. Ha ha, it is naturally at the middle region of the Central Plains. Everyone in the Central Plains knows about it. However, the northern region is somewhat far from there. Even if you were to use the Wormhole, you would need to make quite a few transfers along the way.” Han Chong said.

Xiao Yan nodded slightly. He did not know where the Little Fairy Doctor’s group was. However, it was likely that nothing had happened to them. He inferred that the reason the Spatial Strength turned wild and violent when he entered the silver circle was likely because of the enormous Spatial Force that had struck the exit earlier. The Little Fairy Doctor’s group had already successfully exited before that dangerous Spatial Strength appeared.

“Ha ha, brother Xiao Yan, you should stay on the carriage a little longer since you have just woken up. It is still quite the distance to Tian Bei City. If you have any needs during this period of time, you can call me.” Han Cong looked at the quiet Xiao Yan and thought that the reason for the silence was due to his injuries. He ceased disturbing Xiao Yan as he smiled at him. After speaking, he turned around, pulled open the curtain, and walked away. Xiao Yan was able to see that there were quite a number of carriages around when he had pulled open the curtain. Clearly, this was a convoy.

The interior of the carriage became quiet after Han Chong left. Xiao Yan leaned on the wall of the carriage as thoughts flashed through his mind. Now that he had been separated from the Little Fairy Doctor’s group due to an accident, the most important thing was to recover from his injuries. Otherwise, it would likely not be safe walking in this region where the strong were as numerous as the clouds.

“There is still a very long time until the Pill Gathering of the Pill Tower. If my injuries are completely healed, I might be able to roam this Central Plains a little and inquire about the ‘Hall of Souls.’ I will also have to find that extremely good friend of Yao Lao, Feng zun-zhe... of course, perhaps I will also have to find the time to head to the Burning Flame Valley to see if I can obtain the final two changes of the Sky Fire Three Mysterious Change. Those would be a great use to me.” Xiao Yan softly muttered to himself. Immediately, his eyes suddenly became much brighter.

“Additionally... I will also need to inquire about the mysterious clan behind Xun Er... the current me is soon approaching the requirement that Xun Er had set back then.”

These thoughts flew through Xiao Yan’s heart. A moment later, he let out a long breath. He rubbed his forehead and sensed the empty feeling within his body. His teeth were involuntarily clenched together in a violent manner as he forcefully moved his disobedient legs into a cross-legged training position. His hands formed the training seal as he slowly shut his eyes. Regardless of what happened, recovering his strength was the most important matter. This was especially the case when he was in such a foreign place...

Chapter 947: Han Clan, Han Xue

Xiao Yan endured a day of extremely painful bumps on the carriage before a thread of Dou Qi finally appeared in his empty body. Although this Dou Qi was still extremely weak, it still managed to support him by randomly taking things out of his Storage Ring. Additionally, an entire day of nursing enabled him to alight from the carriage and walk despite his injuries showing little improvement. He no longer needed to lie in the carriage like a corpse.

Xiao Yan gently twisted his arm after standing up from the carriage. The slight pain that was faintly transmitted from it caused him to smile bitterly. At this moment, he was currently at his weakest point in many years. Of course, despite his body being weak, anyone who had ill intention toward him would end up swallowing a bitter pill. Forget about the Earth Demon Puppet hidden within his Storage Ring. Even Xiao Yan himself was not as powerless as he appeared on the surface. After all, he was also a high tier alchemist on top of being a Dou practitioner. His Spiritual Strength was not the least bit inferior even when compared with some elite Dou Zongs.

Although he did not dare to say that he was able to contend with an elite Dou Zong with just his Spiritual Strength, an ordinary expert Dou Huang would not be able to gain much of an advantage over Xiao Yan.

With these trump cards, Xiao Yan's confidence in his heart increased a little. He wiped his face before opening the curtain of the carriage.

After the carriage's curtain was pulled open, numerous covered carriages appeared in his eyes. There was a dark-black bull-like Magical Beast with two horns on its head pulling the carriages at the front. The two sides of the carriages had numerous human figures on horseback. Most of these people had naked arms and wore rough skin clothes, which appeared sturdy. Behind them were weapons that contained a cold glow as they flickered glaringly under the sun...

"Oh, this little fellow has actually survived? Ha ha, Ceng Niu, you have

damn well lost to the old me this time around.”

Numerous gazes from both sides of the carriage were shot over when Xiao Yan opened the curtain. They were immediately startled. A joyous, wild laughter was also emitted from the mouth of a large man not far away.

This large man had a somewhat sturdy built. His naked arm was filled with various kinds of scars. A ghost-headed large blade, that contained some chillness, on his back had a bright-redness adhering to it.

“Dammit, I’ve seen a ghost. This little fellow is able to survive despite suffering such serious injuries, he is really lucky...” A skinny-looking man immediately shook his head helplessly after the laughter from the large man sounded. After which, he glared at the man and snappily said, “What are you howling for. The old me doesn’t care about this little bit of money. However, despite winning this little amount of money, it is still not enough for you to have more rides with the tender women in the brothels...”

“Who asked you to bother about the old me...” The large man scolded. After which, he rode his horse forward and came in front of Xiao Yan. His gaze swept over the latter before he smiled and said, “Little fellow, I am called Gui Tou (Ghost Head), people call me Old Ghost. I was the first person to discover you in that northern desert. However, you need not thank me. The money I won earlier is enough of a thank you gift. Ha ha.”

“Thank you very much big brother Gui Tou. I am Xiao Yan.” Xiao Yan smiled as he sat down with his back leaning against the carriage. Most of the people whom he had met during these years were old cunning fellows. Their strengths were so great that they were terrifying. He had not made much contact with someone at such a low level for quite a long time. This caused him to recall those mercenaries when he was helping his father manage the marketplace in Wu Tang City back then. They were similar to these people in front of him, appearing rough, and uninhibited.

With Xiao Yan’s spiritual strength, he was naturally able to tell that the strongest among these large men in front of him was at the Dou Ling class while the weakest was merely a Da Dou Shi. This Gui Tou in front of him

was only around a two star Dou Ling.

“Ha ha, on account of you calling me big brother, I will protect you along this journey. However, little fellow Xiao Yan, this body of yours really cannot make it. You should train more in the future. If you don’t possess a little strength in the Central Plains, you will be looked down upon by others...” Xiao Yan’s act of calling Gui Tuo ‘big brother’ seemed to have caused him to be extremely happy. After which, he glanced at Xiao Yan’s body, frowned, and chastised. His tone was one used when reprimanding someone from a younger generation. This caused Xiao Yan to slightly grin.

“Gui Tou, you should cease randomly grumbling around here and teaching others nonsense...” The sound of horse hooves was transmitted from the front not long after Gui Tou’s voice sounded. Immediately, Han Chong’s chiding voice rang out.

“Hee hee, it is not as though I have said anything wrong.” Gui Tou dryly laughed and replied upon seeing Han Chong.

Han Chong ignored this fellow. His gaze turned to Xiao Yan, saw his much better complexation, and he involuntarily smiled as he said, “Good. Little brother Xiao Yan, despite suffering such serious injuries, you are actually able to walk after two days.”

Xiao Yan smiled. He randomly found an excuse and smiled as he said, “I have a strong life...”

Han Chong was a simple and honest person. He did not bother too much on this matter. Looking at the sky, he loudly said, “It is becoming dark soon. Xiao-jie (young lady) has said to prepare to set up camp. Gui Tou, you will lead a couple of people and see if there is any good spots nearby. Liang Ya, you will lead some people to patrol around. Gang Bei, you will lead a couple of people...”

Clearly, Han Chong had quite a high position within this convoy, Numerous orders were emitted from his mouth with no one voicing any objections. All of them uttered ‘yes sir’ in a strange manner before leading their people away.

Han Chong also sighed in relief after the orders were issued. He smiled

and asked Xiao Yan, "Can you walk?"

Xiao Yan nodded. He leaped down from the carriage. Although his footsteps staggered a little, he still managed to stabilize itself. Seeing this, Han Chong bitterly laughed as he said, "Looks like you still need to recuperate. After suffering such serious injuries, it is extremely difficult for you to recover completely. If any sequela were to remain, it is likely that your training in the future will become troublesome..."

Xiao Yan smiled and indicated for Han Chong not to be worried when he heard the concern in his voice.

Han Chong ceased saying anything more after seeing that Xiao Yan was so open-minded. He quietly sighed and turned around, preparing to gather people to set up camp.

This convoy was quite efficient. Within less than half an hour, numerous white-colored tents appeared on a small hill. There was also a fence surrounding the tents, and a medicinal powder that repelled poisonous insects was scattered outside the fence.

Xiao Yan did not do much work due to the weary state of his body. He randomly walked to a spot in the camp before sitting down. His gaze slowly swept around him.

According to what Han Chong had mentioned, this convoy should belong to the clan's guards of some whatever Tian Bei City Han clan. The goods on the carriages should be things that they were escorting. The strength of this convoy was mostly at the Dou Ling class, with a couple of them being at the peak of the Dou Ling class. They were similar to Han Chong. Of course, the owner of the strongest aura would naturally not be missed by Xiao Yan...

As he thought of this, Xiao Yan's gaze was involuntarily thrown to a carriage among the many carriages. That carriage was clearly much more luxurious compared to the others. There was even a faint serene fragrance being transmitted from it. It was clearly occupied by a lady. The thing that caused Xiao Yan to pay attention to it was that there was an aura that had reached a three star Dou Wang within the carriage. This person was the

strongest person within the convoy.

“Creak..”

While Xiao Yan was focusing on it, the tightly shut carriage suddenly opened, and a long sleek leg appeared in Xiao Yan’s eyes.

Xiao Yan was startled and his gaze slowly shifted up. Surprise clearly flashed across his eyes. It was unexpected that the owner of the three star Dou Wang aura was actually such a young, pretty person.

The lady had willow-like eyebrows. Her skin was snow-like, and she was blessed with a tall figure. She was wearing purple clothes. Under the cover of the purple clothes was an exceptionally voluminous body with well-proportioned curves. The only lacking aspect was that her face carried a chillness. Her pretty eyes possessed a stern-feeling.

Nevertheless, Xiao Yan suddenly had a faint feeling that this lady’s face seemed a little familiar... however, he was also absolutely certain that this was the first time he saw her.

The numerous surrounding gazes had gathered on this lady the moment she appeared. There was the usual heat within these gazes. However, most of them were respectful.

This lady’s beautiful eyes slowly swept over the campsite the moment she descended the carriage. Anyone who was seen by her immediately acted as though they were working. This caused Xiao Yan to having difficulty stopping himself from laughing as he watched them.

While Xiao Yan felt that the scene was comical, the lady’s gaze suddenly paused on him. Her eyebrows were slightly vertical as she slowly walked over. A moment later, her long sleek legs appeared in front of Xiao Yan. Her somewhat icy-cold voice was emitted, “You are the person whom Han Chong had rescued during the journey, right?”

“Aye.” Xiao Yan nodded his head. He wanted to stand up out of politeness, but the weariness within his body caused him to bitterly laugh. His body shook a little before he ended up sitting back down.

The eyebrows of the lady were knit even more tightly together when she

saw Xiao Yan in such a weak state. She spoke in a faint voice, “There are rules within the convoy of my Han clan. The convoy does not support any idle people who do nothing. On account of you being injured, I shall not say anything more. However, I hope that you will not sit down and do nothing even if you only have the strength to put up fences. Do you understand?”

It was the first time that Xiao Yan had met such a stern and serious woman in so many years. This caused him to be able to neither laugh nor cry. Since when had he actually become an idle person? However, he could only nod his head despite thinking this in his heart.

The lady’s face softened a little upon seeing Xiao Yan nod his head. She randomly tossed something to him and said, “I am called Han Xue, and I am currently the person managing this convoy. You can look for me if you have any issues in the future. If you perform well this time, I might be able to allow you to join the guard of the Han clan when we arrive at Tian Bei City. Although it will not allow you to gain a huge fortune, it will at least enable you to survive. This is a little healing medicine and should have some effect on your injuries. Additionally, we will be passing through the territory of the demon snake Xia Mang. You should be careful. Hide in the carriage and don’t come out.”

After saying this, Han Xue walked past Xiao Yan. After which, she walked into a tent.

Xiao Yan smiled after receiving the jade bottle Han Xue tossed over. Although this lady was stern and appeared somewhat cold and indifferent, she seemed to be a good person. No wonder the people here had great respect for her.

However... what was the matter with that thread of familiar feeling?

Xiao Yan involuntarily frowned when he thought until this point... it was impossible for him to know her...

Chapter 948: Demon Snake Xia Mang

Night gradually covered the entire desert. The moon hung like a silver plate high up in the distant sky, scattering its faint cool moonlight over the land...

There were few people within the desolate desert. However, there was surprisingly some fire and hearty human voices appearing on a hill. The sound spread and significantly reduced the quiet coldness around.

Quite a number of large piles of fire were emitting sparks that flew toward the sky from within the camp on the hilltop. The light from the flames lit the entire camp ground until it was quite bright. Many people were surrounding the piles of fire. Their hands held some wine jars as they laughed out loud. After which, the bottles collided together, emitting a 'ping' sound amid some laughter.

Xiao Yan sat beside a pile of fire. He smiled as he watched these large men around him, who had drunk until they had flushed faces. This kind of atmosphere was something that he had seldom endured.

"Brother Xiao Yan, here. Drink a little to warm your body. The desert is cold." A laugh suddenly sounded while Xiao Yan was fiddling with the flame. Immediately, a wine jar flew toward him. Xiao Yan extended his hand and accurately grabbed it. After which, he raised his head to look at Han Chong, who had the smell of alcohol all over him. He then smiled with a nod. "Thank you big brother Han Chong."

After saying this, he raised the wine jar and gulped two mouthfuls. The fiery heat rose from his stomach, causing a flush to surface on his face.

"Ha ha, little fellow Xiao Yan, not bad. You still possess some spirit of a man." Some of the surrounding Han clan's guards involuntarily smiled and praised when they saw that Xiao Yan had drank half a bag of potent wine in one shot.

Xiao Yan smiled to everyone. He was just about to speak when the tent in the middle of the campsite suddenly opened. A figure that appeared extremely alluring under the moonlight immediately appeared in front of

everyone's gazes. That figure was Han Xue.

At this moment, Han Xue appeared to have just bathed. Hence, her smooth black hair carried some moisture as it floated down. At this moment, she appeared to have the additional enchantment of a woman. This caused quite a number of younger Han clan's guards to have quicker heartbeats upon seeing her.

Han Xue walked out of her tent. Her gaze randomly glanced around once. After which, she sat down beside a fire not far from Xiao Yan's group. She took out a dagger and took a piece of grilled meat from the fire rack before slowly placing it into her small mouth. The elegance from her slow chewing appeared to be incompatible with the surrounding rough chewing atmosphere. However, it must be said that the current Han Xue was extremely beautiful and moving.

The voices of Han Chong and the others were unknowingly suppressed after Han Xue had come out. Their dirty jokes were also hurriedly swallowed into their stomach.

Xiao Yan turned his head and looked at Han Xue who appeared to have a delicateness that belonged to a woman under the fire light which was mixed with the stern coldness from the daytime.

"Hee hee, why? Have you been smitten by xiao-jie (young lady)?" Han Chong by the side suddenly rushed forward while Xiao Yan was focusing on Han Xue and softly teased. The warm smile on his face caused these strong man to appear somewhat insignificant at this moment. Of course, all of them were men. Hence, there was no need to hide these words.

Xiao Yan was startled when he heard this. He immediately laughed and shook his head.

"There is no need to be embarrassed. Who younger than thirty in this guard unit is able to escape xiao-jie's enchantment? However, all of them understand that they can only think about such matters in their hearts. Xiao-jie is already an elite Dou Wang at such a young age. Her great talent is only surpassed by elder young miss in the entire Han clan. With the status and position of us guards, it is little different from attempting to get

something far beyond us.” Han Chong patted Xiao Yan’s chest and sighed.

Xiao Yan nodded slightly. Although he was unaware of just how strong the Han clan was, being the young lady of the Han clan, Han Xue’s status was naturally higher than these guards. Hence, these young men in the clan who harbored a crush on her would likely end up with a dashed dream...

“However, xiao-jie (young miss) is indeed quite a good person. Although she is usually very stern, she treats us guards quite well. If any guard ends up seriously injured in a mission, she would get the clan to fork over some money to give to that guard’s kin. It should be known that once a person lost his use in other places, the other party would abandon you. One should consider himself lucky if the other party doesn’t quietly kill you because they are afraid that you will leak some secret.” Han Chong smacked his mouth and said.

Xiao Yan was startled. It was unexpected that this cold-looking lady would actually have such a kind heart.

Han Xue did not have a big appetite. Hence, she stood up after just a short while. Her pretty eyes swept over the tents before immediately getting ahold of Han Chong. She spoke indifferently, “Those on duty tonight should not drink alcohol. The others should also drink less. Everyone should pay more attention when we pass through the territory of the demon snake Xia Mang tomorrow.”

She did not stay any longer after saying these words. With gentle footsteps, she slowly entered her tent before extinguishing the light within it.

The atmosphere within the camp grounds was no longer as relaxing as it had been earlier once Han Xue re-entered her tent. Some people knit their brows before softly cursed. Due to Xiao Yan being quite far away, he was unable to clearly hear what was being said. However, he could vaguely make out something demon snake. It was likely the whatever demon snake Xia Mang that Han Xue had mentioned earlier.

“Ugh, damn it, I had forgotten about that greedy and lecherous bastard.

Alright, let's all stop drinking. Double the guards tonight and ensure nothing goes wrong." Han Chong held the wine jar and violently poured it into his mouth. After which, he tossed the wine jar aside, stood up, and spoke in a deep voice.

Everyone also began to toss the wine jars aside after hearing Han Chong's cry. After which, they scattered and strengthened the defenses and patrols of the campground.

Xiao Yan was a little stunned when he looked at the campgrounds, which had swiftly become a lot more solemn. A moment later, he stood up and asked, "Big brother Han, just what is that demon snake Xia Mang?"

Han Chong laughed bitterly when he heard this. He said, "We will pass by a place called the Ten Thousand Snake Gorge. That place is the territory of a demon snake called Xia Mang. That fellow's strength might have just reached the Dou Huang class, but even some experts at the peak of the Dou Huang class don't wish to get entangled with him because he, as the demon snake, is able to control all the poison snakes rank 4 and below in the Ten Thousand Snake Gorge. Hence, he has occupied that spot for many years. One has to pay an expensive toll if one wants to successfully pass through it. Anyone who refuses will have difficulty leaving the Ten Thousand Snake Gorge alive."

"A Dou Huang class demon snake? It actually possesses an intelligence and knows how to occupy a territory and be a bandit?" Xiao Yan's face was somewhat strange when he spoke.

"Rank 6 Magical Beast mostly have quite a high intelligence. Moreover, this Xia Mang has eaten a Demon Transformation Pill. Hence, it can escape its snake shape. Its intelligence is also higher than other rank 6 Magical Beast." Han Chong said.

"Demon Transformation Pill? This medicinal pill is actually able to allow a Magical beast to transform its body? I remember that only a Body Transformation Pill has such an effect and that is a tier 7 medicinal pill." Xiao Yan spoke in a stunned manner.

"The Demon Transformation Pill is only a tier 6 medicinal pill. Its effect

is indeed similar to that of a Body Transformation Pill. However, it only allows a partial transformation and its effect is far inferior to a Body Transformation Pill. Such a medicinal pill is most sought after in some Magical Beast clan.” Han Chong explained.

Xiao Yan only sighed in relief after hearing this. He no understood the worry of Han Xue and everyone else. After all, the strongest in this convoy of theirs was Han Xue, and she only had the strength of a Dou Wang. She was undoubtedly far inferior when compared to Xia Mang.

“Hopefully this fellow will not ask for a huge sum tomorrow. Ugh, brother Xiao Yan, you should go and rest first. I still need to command the others to strengthen our defenses and make the proper preparations.” Han Chong sighed. Immediately, he patted Xiao Yan’s shoulders, turned around, and walked toward a tent.

Xiao Yan looked at the campground, which had become much quieter. He could only helplessly shake his head. He turned and returned to his own tent. However, Xiao Yan did not sleep immediately upon returning to the tent. Instead, he took out a bottle of medicinal liquid, which he had used when training in the magma world back then from his Storage Ring. After which, he applied it all over his body. That kind of icy-cool feeling caused the piercing pain within his body to be greatly reduced. Moreover, Xiao Yan was able to sense a thread of warm energy following his skin and slowly merge into his body.

“After a couple more days, the injuries that I have received should gradually improve. At that time, my body will be able accommodate the entry of some Dou Qi.”

Xiao Yan sensed the change within his body and his expression also relaxed. He put the linen clothes back on his body. After which, he sat cross-legged and entered a training state, carefully absorbing the natural energy to repair his injured body.

The next day, Xiao Yan opened his eyes when some noise sounded within the campsite. He clenched his fist, sensed the weakening pain within his body, and involuntarily smiled. Perhaps it was because he ended

up frequently injured, but his recovery rate in the face of such injuries caused even him to feel surprise.

After getting up and arranging his clothes, Xiao Yan walked out of the tent. He smiled at Han Chong's group, who was hurrying to pack up the camp, before stepping forward and lending a hand.

Han Chong's group, which was aware of Han Xue's character, did not reject Xiao Yan's help. They simply smiled and handed some simpler tasks to Xiao Yan.

Xiao Yan threw the tent in his hand into a carriage and had just turned around when a serene fragrance passed by him. The figure immediately paused and a pair of pretty eyes swept over. A faint voice also sounded, "You will continue to remain in the carriage today. Don't come out."

She did not give Xiao Yan the opportunity to speak. She returned to her own carriage. After which, a moving cold cry was emitted from within it.

"Start the convoy!"

The corner of Xiao Yan's mouth twitched involuntarily as he looked at the convoy, which was proceeding forward with a creaking sound. "This person is really not bad. I will just wait and see. If any accident is to happen, I will quietly lend a hand."

Chapter 949: Ten Thousand Snake Gorge

The sandy wind blew over the desolate desert as a howling sound lingered in the sky. The wind carried a wave of sand as it flew into the distance.

Some black spots gradually appeared at the end of the road. A moment later, the black dots approached. It was actually a convoy. There was nearly a hundred guards with stern faces guarding the convoy. Numerous cautious gazes swept around them. Their hands were also tightly holding the weapons on their backs.

The location of this part of the desert was already approaching the external part of the northern Central Plains region. Hence, one would occasionally see one or two figures. However, they were extremely sparse and they disappeared within the blink of an eye. The entire road rang only with the sound of horse hooves and the eagle cries that were transmitted from the sky.

Xiao Yan was leaning on the window within a bumpy carriage. His gaze looked over the stern looking guards from the Han clan. The atmosphere today was different from the usual relaxed feeling. Even Gui Tou and the few others who were basically joking around everyday had also shut their mouths. Their hands, which were holding onto their weapons, tightened and relaxed repeatedly, revealing the anxiety in their hearts.

“Looks like the whatever demon snake Xia Mang has quite a fierce reputation here. He is actually able to cause these people to be so anxious...” Xiao Yan softly muttered after absorbing the expressions of those around into his eyes.

Xiao Yan mused for a moment before shaking his head. After which, he sat cross-legged in the carriage, shut his eye, and recuperated...

The bumpiness within the carriage continued for around two hours or so before it suddenly came to a stop. At this moment, Xiao Yan, within the carriage, had suddenly opened his eyes. His gaze passed through the gap of the window and was coincidentally able to see a steep mountain peak

not far away. In the middle of the mountain peak was a crack that appeared to have been cleaved apart. The crack was around a couple of dozen feet in size, appearing like a gorge.

When the carriage came to a stop, Xiao Yan's Spiritual Perception acutely sensed that everyone's heart beats had become a little faster. It seemed that this should be the so-called 'Ten Thousand Snake Gorge'...

"Everyone, be careful, we are entering the area of the Ten Thousand Gorge. Gui Tou, lead some people to scatter some snake repellent powder along the way. The snakes in it are the eyes of Xia Mang. As long as they are not disturbed, we should be able to smoothly pass through. Additionally, even if we are discovered, do not attack without orders. Those who disobey will be punished according to the clan rules!" Han Chong's stern cry suddenly sounded from outside the carriage while Xiao Yan was deep in thought.

"Yes sir!"

A response followed after Han Chong's cry sounded.

"Let's go!"

Han Chong's expression was solemn as he nodded. He immediately waved his hand and commanded with a deep voice.

The convoy began to move once again upon Han Chong's orders. After which, it slowly advanced toward the steep mountain range...

"Brother Xiao Yan, if anything is to happen later, I would like to request something of you. Try your best to bring xiao-jie away." A low voice suddenly sounded from outside while Xiao Yan was leaning against the carriage window. He was involuntarily startled. With a turn of his head, he saw that the person was Han Chong.

"Nothing should happen. That Xia Mang merely wants a toll fee. Won't everything be settled if you were to give him the fee at that time?" Xiao Yan asked.

"If xiao-jie is not around, it is likely that we can settle it by just paying some money. However... ugh, that bastard snake is not only greedy, but it

is also like a beast in rut when it meets a beautiful woman. Hence, if any accident happens at that time... there is still quite a great distance to Tian Bei City from here. Even the Han clan would have difficulty posing much of a threat to it.” Han Chong looked at the front carriage which was emitting a serene fragrance, sighed, and bitterly laughed.

Xiao Yan only came to a sudden understanding upon hearing this. They were actually worried about her. No wonder the group appeared as though they were about to meet a great enemy.

“Big brother Han, you can rest assured that nothing will happen to everyone.” Xiao Yan smiled as he replied.

Han Chong merely treated Xiao Yan’s words as a form of consolation. He let out a bitter laugh as he mocked himself. He clearly understood that Xiao Yan was currently a seriously injured person, yet he still inexplicably came and told him this. If anything were to happen at that time, it was likely that Xiao Yan would not even have the ability to protect himself. How would he help the young miss?

Han Chong sighed. When he saw the carriages gradually enter the gorge, he could only helplessly shake his head. After which, he rode his horse and swiftly galloped forward before beginning to closely examine the sides for any activity.

At this moment, the convoy was still entering the Ten Thousand Snake Gorge. Due to them being afraid to disturb anything, their carriages were all covered by clothes. The mouths of the black-horned bull pulling the truck was also blocked. The group was sneaking into the gorge in this stealthy manner...

All the guards of the Han clan on both sides of the carriage had already drawn their weapons. Their other hand were holding a white-colored powder they repeatedly scattered on both sides of the road.

The convoy did not meet with anything amid this anxious atmosphere. Around ten plus minutes later, they passed through the middle part of the gorge. From hede, they could vaguely see the exit of the gorge in the distance. Almost everyone quietly sighed in relief in their hearts when

they saw this.

While everyone had relaxed, Xiao Yan within the carriage slowly opened his eyes. He immediately sighed softly. They were indeed unable to hide from trouble.

The sigh had just sounded when the entire gorge instantly shook. Immediately, the trees on both sides of the gorge swiftly collapsed, revealing some enormous snakes.

“Dammit, we have been discovered. Increase our speed. Go!”

Han Chong cried out furiously. His expression became much uglier when he saw this scene.

At this moment, there was no need for him to cry out. The experienced Han clan’s guards had already went all out to urge the black-horned bull forward. After which, the convoy rumbled and sped up, trying its best to charge out of the gorge.

“Bang!”

When the convoy was still around less than a hundred meters from the gorge’s exit, numerous enormous figures suddenly rushed over from both sides of the gorge. Finally, they sealed off the entire road. Their savage, enormous mouths were emitting snake tongues that contained a stench with a ‘chi chi’ sound. Dark, cold snake eyes locked onto everyone in the convoy.

“Dammit...”

Han Chong’s heart immediately sunk upon seeing the countless number of enormous snakes blocking their paths. Although these enormous snakes were only rank 3 Magical Beasts, their bodies were extremely large. With just a couple of dozens of them, they were able to block the entire road until there was not the slightest gap left.

Waves of rustling sounds were transmitted from the surrounding bushes after the road was blocked. Immediately, countless large and small, various colored poison snakes came out in a densely packed manner. Finally, they surrounded the entire convoy.

“Tsk tsk, a group of fools is actually thinking of slipping past this great old Xia?”

A strange laugh suddenly sounded from the sky after the encircling took shape. Immediately, a black-green figure swiftly flew down from the top of the gorge. Within a breath's time, he appeared in the sky above the convoy.

The figure that had just appeared in the sky above the convoy was quite strange. His human body and limbs were covered with densely packed black-green scales. The spot where his head was supposed to be located had a savage looking snake head. Its tiny eyes contained a dark coldness and ruthlessness as they stared at the people below.

Additionally, on the back of this half-human half-snake demon was a pair of black-green Dou Qi wings, that carried a strong wild that swept through the gorge as they flapped.

The expression of Han Chong's group immediately turned pale-white when they saw the black-green figure that had appeared. Their voices trembled a little.

“Demon snake... Xia Mang...”

Xia Mang looked down at the convoy from above. He suddenly laughed as he casually said, “All of you should know the rules of this grandpa, no?”

Han Chong's face trembled a little. He immediately walked out of the convoy, took out a crystal card and respectfully said, “Of course we know about it. Commander Xia Mang, we are the convoy from the Han clan in Tian Bei City. This is a small gift that I hope commander sir will accept.”

Xia Mang extended his hand. A suction force unceremoniously pulled the crystal card in Han Chong's hand. He glanced at it before parting his mouth and laughing, “Not bad. Looks like all of you still have some sincerity.”

Han Chong's face rejoiced slightly upon hearing this. He carefully said, “In that case, can commander sir allow our convoy to past?”

“This is only natural...” Xia Mang smiled strangely. His snake tongue

licked the corner of his mouth before his finger suddenly pointed at the carriage where Han Xue was located. He smiled lewdly and said, "However, leave her behind first!"

The expressions of everyone in the convoy suddenly changed. Quite a number of people quietly tightened their grip on their weapons. Han Chong also gently inhaled a breath and respectfully questioned, "What does commander sir mean?"

"Hee hee, little girl, there is no need to hide. This grandpa has already sniffed the kind of fragrance on a woman's body from a great distance away. Moreover, this grandpa also knows that this time around I have met an exquisite one... hence, you should come out." Xia Mang ignored Han Chong and laughed strangely at the carriage his gaze had locked onto.

"Bang!"

Xia Mang's voice had just sounded when the roof of the carriage burst apart. A human figure flashed up before standing on the roof of the carriage. An ice-cold gaze glared at Xia Mang in the sky.

A red glow immediately erupted in Xia Mang's eyes when he saw Han Xue's face. He immediately laughed to the sky, "It is really as this grandpa had expected. The reward this time around is really rich. It has been a long time since I have met such exquisite stuff..."

Han Xue's face was ice-cold. A killing intent flashed through her pretty eyes. She clenched her delicate hand and a longsword appeared. She flapped the Dou Qi wings on her back as she suddenly shot toward Xia Mang.

"Hee hee, little girl, how can this Dou Wang strength of yours escape from the palms of this grandpa?" Xia Mang laughed out loud when he saw Han Xue charge over. He widened his mouth and a jade-green Dou Qi pillar shot out. Finally, it smashed into her longsword in a lightning-like manner. The longsword was shattered and Han Xue's figure was also forced back. A paleness surfaced on her sleek red face. The gap between a Dou Wang and a Dou Huang was too great.

"Commander Xia, we are people from the Han clan in Tian Bei City. If

you attack us, the head of the Han clan and the Elders will definitely not let you off!” Han Chong immediately cried out furiously when he saw Han Xue suffer a setback.

“Tsk tsk, Han clan huh? Although there’s the presence of those old fellows, but what can they do to me? I can always flee if I can’t defeat them. Moreover, as long as I leave all of you here, who would know that I attacked the people from the Han clan?” Xia Mang laughed in a strange manner. After which, his mouth emitted an unusual hissing sound. When this hissing sound was emitted, cold glows flashed in the eyes of the countless number of poisonous snakes on both sides of the gorge. Immediately, they shot toward the convoy like arrows. The extremely packed scene looked as though it was raining poisonous snakes, appearing extremely terrifying.

The faces of almost everyone revealed despair when they were faced with such a frightening number of poisonous snake attacks. They held their weapons tightly and prepared to fight to their deaths.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

The poisonous snakes from all directions seemed to be attempting to cover the sky. However, when they were less than ten feet from the convoy, their bodies suddenly stiffened. Immediately, they emitted a crackling sound as they transformed into clusters of fireballs. Within a short instant, they turned into a pile of ashes that scattered from the sky.

Looking at this sudden unexpected change, everyone present, including Han Chong’s group, Han Xue, and Xia Mang were all stunned.

“This... this is?”

Chapter 950: Mysterious Strong Person

The pale-black ashes slowly drifted down from the sky before forming a thin black-colored layer that covered the surface of the ground. This unusual scene caused a chill to rise within everyone's heart. No one knew just what had happened. Even with the strength of Xia Mang, he could only just stand and watch as many poisonous snakes suddenly turned to ashes. Even he was completely unaware of the reason for the unexpected change.

A strange silence covered the gorge. A countless number of poisonous snakes on both sides of the gorge appeared to have sensed an uneasiness. Their bodies were tensed up while an irritable hissing was repeatedly emitted from their mouths, causing the atmosphere within the valley to become much darker and colder than before.

Han Chong's group looked at each other. They immediately slowly stepped back the convoy and protected Han Xue at their center. Their alert eyes were locked on Xia Mang in the sky.

The silent atmosphere continued for a moment before Xia Mang finally recovered. His gaze was somewhat hesitant as he swept over the place. It landed on Han Xue attractive lovely face and his eyes once again turned fiery hot. Clenching his teeth, he once again emitted a sharp hissing sound from his mouth. The countless number of poisonous snakes on both sides of the valley hesitated a little upon hearing this hissing sound before a fierce glow flashed across their eyes. They twitched their bodies, which became just like many sharp arrows that emitted a 'xiu xiu' sound as they shot over to the convoy.

Seeing the poisonous snakes launching another attack, Han Chong's group quickly summoned their Dou Qi. However, before they could attack, the mysterious 'bang bang' sound once again rang across the sky. A countless number of fireballs appeared before swiftly being extinguished like the epiphyllum flower. Finally, the snakes turned to dust that slowly scattered down.

A wild joy surged into the eyes of Han Chong's group upon seeing this scene. At this point they could guess that there was someone secretly helping them...

"Xiao-jie (young miss)..." An excitement surfaced on Han Chong face as he looked at Han Xue and softly uttered.

Han Xue gently waved her hand. Her pretty eyes slowly swept around her, but she did not discover the slightest trace of anyone. Immediately, her brows were slightly knit together. Could their luck really be this good? They were actually able to meet an expert who would lend them a hand at such a moment?

Her pretty eyes wandered before suddenly and unexpectedly pausing on a carriage a moment later. That place... was where Xiao Yan was located.

Han Xue's long eyelashes blinked gently when her sight paused on the carriage. Before she could think deeper, Xia Mang's dark, cold voice was transmitted from the sky.

"May I know which expert is here? I am Xia Mang. Please forgive me if I have offended you in any way. However, the matter today is a private one between these fellows and I. Friend, please do not intervene." Xia Mang's eyes swept across the sky as he cupped his hands together.

Xia Mang's voice slowly reverberated though this gorge. However, there was no reply. Just when he was feeling somewhat frustrated, an elderly voice spoke in a concise manner.

"Get lost."

The sudden elderly voice appeared to have descended from the sky before lingering beside everyone's ears. At this moment, the joy within the hearts of Han Chong's group grew denser. There was indeed an expert helping them...

Han Xue's pretty eyes turned away from the carriage where Xiao Yan was located when the elderly voice sounded. They swept to other locations, intent to find this mysterious expert.

"Do you really wish to fight because of these useless people?" A fierce

glow flashed across Xia Mang's eyes. However, he did not dare to attack because of the strange scene from earlier. All he did was speak in a sinister manner.

"If you do not get lost within ten breaths, you will die!"

The owner of the voice earlier once again gave an extremely concise reply to Xia Mang's words. Even Han Chong and the others could hear a faint cold laugh and ridicule from the voice. It seemed to be mocking Xia Mang for being overconfident of his strength.

Xia Mang's eyes became gloomy after being treated so rudely twice. He was able to act as he pleased in this place for many years not because there were no experts who wanted to kill him. Instead, it was because this mountain range was really too large and there were a countless number of snake holes within it. As long as Xia Mang transformed his body and entered the deep mountains, finding him would be an extremely troublesome matter. It was due to this that this fellow's fierce name had gradually become stronger.

A dense coldness flashed across Xia Mang's eyes, but nothing could be discerned from his face. Instead, he cupped his hands in all directions and said, "Since friend insist on protecting them, Xia Mang shall give you this face today..."

Xia Mang had just reached his last word when a cold glint erupted from his eyes. His feet immediately pressed against the empty air as his body flashed like jade-green lightning. Within the blink of an eye, he appeared in front of Han Xue. Powerful Dou Qi surged out at this moment and an enormous air flow shook Han Chong's group until they swiftly stepped back.

"Little girl, hardly any woman whom this grandpa fancies can escape."

Xia Mang laughed lewdly as Dou Qi surged. He immediately grabbed at Han Xue. The swiftness of his speed was something that Han Xue could not dodge with her strength. Hence, she could only watch as the other party's claw landed on her shoulder.

"You are seeking death!"

Xia Mang's hand had just landed when a cold cry that contained killing intent suddenly sounded. Immediately an invisible energy ripple merged with the space in a lightning-like manner. An instant later, it exploded strangely on Xia Mang's chest.

“Bang!”

A low, deep explosion sounded, but it did not cause even the slightest energy collision. Nevertheless, over half of the Dou Qi that permeated Xia Mang's body immediately scattered. An enormous force exploded on his chest and the wild violent strength blasted the scales on his skin until they were drenched with fresh blood. Xia Mang's body hurried away.

“Protect xiao-jie (Young Miss)!”

The invisible attack forced back Xia Mang. Seeing this, Han Chong's group hurriedly swarmed forward. They swarmed and surrounded Han Xue. Their gazes were viciously staring at Xia Mang.

Han Xue's pretty eyes stared at Xia Mang, who had been left in such a miserable state with just one attack. A monstrous wave was raised within her heart. She knew that despite this fellow being loathful, his strength was not weak. Adding to the fact that his original form was a Magical Beast with exceptionally strong defensive capabilities, he did not expect that he would end up in this miserable manner without even having seen his enemy... just how frightening strong was the person who had attacked him? It was likely that they would hardly find such an expert even within the entire Han clan.

Xia Mang continued stepping back over a hundred steps. Only then did he stop his body with a shocked expression. He wiped off the blood trace on the corner of his mouth, looked all around him, and involuntarily cried out loud, “Spiritual Strength? You are an alchemist?”

Xia Mang had finally recognized this invisible strength upon contact. That was clearly the Spiritual Strength that alchemists specialized in. That kind of spiritual attack was also clearly the skill that an alchemist was most adept at.

“Hmph!”

The owner of that voice ignored Xia Mang's exclamation. A cold snort was emitted and an invisible Spiritual Strength once again rippled in the air. Immediately, it contained a thunderbolt like momentum as it violently shot toward Xia Mang.

Upon sensing the spiritual attack that was heading over once again, the scales all over Xia Mang's body stood on end. The terror on his face also became denser. In the end, he finally let out a sharp cry, turned around, and transformed into a dark-black figure that fled miserably into the mountain forest in front of the stunned gazes of Han Chong's group. He completely vanished within a couple of flashes.

Xia Mang genuinely sensed a bone-piercing killing intent within that spiritual attack. He knew that if he stayed any longer, the owner of the Spiritual Strength would definitely slice him into pieces of snake meat. Being able to survive in this place for so many years, Xia Mang clearly knew just who to offend and who not to offend. Offending such an expert for a beauty was really not worthwhile...

After Xia Mang fled, the countless number of poisonous snakes on both sides of the gorge immediately turned around and fled like mice. Even the dozens of enormous snakes blocking the road went all out to flee into the grass. Within a short couple of minutes, the gorge, which had been firmly blocked, had become empty. This scene caused Han Chong's group to feel stunned.

"Dammit... these fellows are really practiced in fleeing for their lives. It looks that they have frequently been chased after by people..."

No one knew who said these words amid the silent atmosphere that caused everyone to laughed out loud. The loudness of the laughter appeared to be an attempt at spitting out all of their earlier shock.

After laughing, Han Chong patted his chest. He had really took one turn above the tip of a blade. Fortunately, nothing had happened.

Han Xue's ice-cold, pretty face defrosted slightly at this moment. She immediately raised her head and cupped her hands respectfully toward the sky. "This junior is Han Yue from the Han clan. Elder, thank you for

lending a hand today. Is it possible for you to reveal yourself so that this younger generation can remember you in my heart?”

“The old me has merely coincidentally passed by. There is nothing to see. Go...”

A faint old voice was slowly transmitted from the sky, making it difficult for one to find its actual position.

After the voice sounded, that mysterious expert seemed to have left. Not even the slightest noise was emitted.

The quiet surroundings caused Han Xue to sigh disappointedly. She waved her hand and a clear moving voice was emitted from her small mouth, “Let’s continue our journey.”

Han Chong’s group hurriedly nodded upon hearing this. After which, they spread apart and continued to protect the convoy in their midst. A wave of cracking sounds appeared and the convoy advanced once again.

Han Xue had also returned to her own convoy after the convoy started to move. An unknown feeling caused her to suddenly throw her gaze to the carriage where Xiao Yan was located when she was boarding her own carriage. A moment later, she finally knit her brows, and mocked herself. Her toes pressed on the ground and her lovely body leaped back into her carriage.

Xiao Yan, who was seated cross-legged in a carriage, slowly opened his eyes when Han Xue returned to her carriage. He held his chest and coughed intensely while smiling bitterly. His injuries had yet to completely recover, but he had already maneuvered his Spiritual Strength to fight with others. It was a little tough on him...

Chapter 951: Spatial Strength

After leaving the Ten Thousand Snake Gorge, the entire convoy had descended into a joyful atmosphere of having survived a calamity. The solemn atmosphere from earlier completely vanished. Everyone was busy talking about the scene that had occurred earlier. The frightening strength that the mysterious expert had displayed was shocking to them.

“Ha ha, The fleeing manner of that bastard snake Xia Mang earlier was just like a foolish snake that had been beaten unconscious. It was really enjoyable. Although we were nearly finished off, being able to see that demon snake Xia Mang, with his fierce reputation, being turned into such a miserable manner made it worthwhile.”

“This is because of the great strength of that elder. From what Xia Mang said, that elder should be an alchemist. According to my guess, he should at least be a tier 6 alchemist. Otherwise, it is extremely difficult for him to rely on his Spiritual Strength to frighten off Xia Mang.”

“Tsk tsk, a tier 6 alchemist. I recall that the chief alchemist in our Han clan is only a tier 5 alchemist, no? Even though that is the case, the clan head is still very courteous when meeting him.”

“That’s right, we can be considered lucky this time around. Unfortunately, we did not get to see that elder. A tier 6 alchemist. That is a top existence even in the Tian Bei City.”

“Stop daydreaming. An expert naturally has the pride of an expert. We should already kowtow and thank him for rescuing us in passing.”

Xiao Yan sat in the carriage and involuntarily laughed when he heard the heated discussions outside. It was fortunate that he did not show himself earlier...

The curtain of the carriage was suddenly opened while Xiao Yan was quietly sighing. Immediately, a smiling Han Chong strode in. He randomly threw a water bag to the former and smiled as he asked, “You were not shocked, were you?”

Xiao Yan received the water bag, drank a mouthful of water before he nodded with a grin. He softly replied, "I'm alright."

"Ugh, we were lucky this time around to meet an elder who helped us. Otherwise, it is likely that we would have been killed in the Ten Thousand Snake Gorge." Han Chong sat in the carriage and joyously said, "However, that elder is really quite nice. Normally, there is seldom anyone who would bother in the matter of others unless they were acquainted."

Xiao Yan grinned. It seemed that Han Chong in front of him had suffered deep shock within the gorge. Now, he was exhaling all of it in one go. Moreover, the unceasing praises he had for that mysterious 'elder,' who had intervened, caused Xiao Yan's expression to become somewhat strange as he nodded.

After speaking in a long-winded manner for over ten minutes, Han Chong finally stopped in a manner that suggested he had yet to say enough. He smiled at Xiao Yan and said, "After passing through the Ten Thousand Snake Gorge, the remaining journey will be uneventful. Although there might be some bandits and displaced people along the way, they are not a threat to us. Originally, we would not have passed through the Ten Thousand Snake Gorge during this journey. However, we met with a sandstorm in the desert and ended up deviating from our path. If we were to head back, it would have required an extremely long time. Hence, we can only brace ourselves and take this route."

"Big brother Han, how much longer will it take from this place to Tian Bei city?" Xiao Yan came to a sudden understanding. He was still uncertain about why Han Xue's group was not received by experts dispatched by the Han clan despite knowing that they needed to pass through the Ten Thousand Snake Gorge along the way. After hearing this, he understood that they had changed routes. He nodded his head, hesitated for a moment, and eventually posed his question.

"If everything is smooth, there is still around another six days." Han Chong thought for a moment before replying.

"Six days huh..." Xiao Yan softly muttered when he heard this. His heart

immediately let out a quiet sigh of relief. His injuries should be mostly recovered within six days. There would definitely be quite a number of experts when they reached that city. If he did not recover his strength quickly, it was likely that he would be faced with a lot of trouble. After all, regardless of where one was located, one would only have the right to speak and ability to protect oneself only if one possessed strength.

Xiao Yan planned to begin gathering information about the 'Hall of Souls' once he reached Tian Bei City. If it was possible, he would head to the Burning Flame Valley and obtain the remaining two changes of the Sky Fire Three Mysterious Change. Once he possessed both of these changes, he should be able to contend with an elite Dou Zong head-on even if he did not use the Angry Buddha Lotus Flame.

Han Chong was completely unaware of the thoughts within Xiao Yan's heart. Hence, after chatting for a moment, he instructed Xiao Yan to recuperate properly before he descended from the carriage.

The convoy followed the main road and headed south, slowly progressing toward Tian Bei City, which was some distance away. Due to everyone being aware that Xiao Yan was seriously injured, seldom anyone disturbed him after Han Chong left. This gave him the time to quietly recuperate.

The bumpiness of the carriage also continued for a period of time before slowly coming to a stop. Xiao Yan opened his eyes within the carriage, glanced at the sky, and knew that the convoy was about to begin setting up camp again. Traveling at night in this desert was quite dangerous, and it would be extremely inefficient. Hence, there was seldom anyone who would journey at night.

After an afternoon's recuperation, the intense pain within Xiao Yan's body greatly weakened. He was even able to sense some Dou Qi flowing within his veins. Although it was extremely tiny when compared to the past, the speed at which his injuries were recovering caused him to feel quite happy.

Xiao Yan pulled open the curtain of the carriage and walked down after

the carriage came to a stop. He knew Han Xue's character and did not wish to be reprimanded by her again.

Once he descended from the carriage, Xiao Yan grabbed some tent poles, and walked over to the tent spot Han Chong's group had selected. However, he would sniff a faint serene fragrance being transmitted in front of him each time he took a couple of steps forward. He immediately paused, raised his head, and looked at Han Xue in front. After which, he smiled at her and nodded.

Han Xue stood prettily on some rock fragments. Her pretty eyes stared at the young man in front of her. His rough linen clothes gave him an additional ordinariness. His face was considered quite young and delicate, but it could not be considered handsome. Nevertheless, it was a face that one could continue watching. He seemed to belong to the the kind of man who appeared more interesting the longer one looked at him. Han Xue's pretty eyes studied the other party's eyes only for her to be slightly startled. Those dark-black eyes did not reveal an uneasiness nor fleetingness that others displayed when watching her. All that was visible within them was a slight smile and calmness. The eyes were just like deep water that had difficulty forming even the slightest ripple.

"Miss Han Xue, is there anything?" When Han Xue's pretty eyes were staring at Xiao Yan, he began to be unable to endure this attention of hers. He took the lead to open his mouth and inquire with a chuckle.

Han Xue's eyebrows trembled slightly when she heard this. She immediately extended her hand slowly and grabbed Xiao Yan's arm amid some stunned gazes around them. Probing Dou Qi was swiftly transmitted into Xiao Yan's body.

Xiao Yan's expression did not change even a little as he sensed the Dou Qi enter his body. A thought passed through his mind and the Dou Qi within his body immediately scattered into his veins.

The Dou Qi circulated one round around Xiao Yan's body before helplessly returning. It used the same route as it traveled back into Han Xue's body. Only then did she release her hand. Disappointment flashed

across her eyes. It seemed that her little ridiculous guess did indeed originate from nowhere. Currently, the only thing that she had discovered within Xiao Yan's body was his extremely serious internal injuries...

"It's nothing." Han Xue shook her head. She glanced at the tent poles he was carrying on his shoulders and said, "The internal injuries within your body are quite serious. There is no need for you to work. Let other people do these things."

"Ke ke, there is no need to. Although I am injured, I am not some useless person." Xiao Yan heartily laughed. He shook his head before continuing to carry the tent poles. He sidestepped Han Xue and walked toward Han Chong's group.

Han Xue involuntarily mocked herself as she turned her head and studied the somewhat skinny back. She actually had that kind of unrealistic thought. Looking at Xiao Yan's appearance, his age was likely similar to hers. Even if he was some training genius, it was likely that he would have difficulty reaching the point of frightening off an elite Dou Huang with just two words at such an age.

"Looks like it was really just a case of good luck..."

The desert night was still cold and desolate. A faint silver glow covered the vast land where one could not see the borders even when standing on high ground.

The interior of the camp was quiet. Only the occasional crackling of the flame could be heard. There were quite a number of sentries walking back and forth outside of the camp, protecting it.

Xiao Yan was seated cross-legged in a somewhat simple tent in the camp. His body was once again covered with that medicinal liquid he used during training. Threads of energy surged from Xiao Yan's surroundings before following his breath as they poured into his body.

The Dou Qi within Xiao Yan's body was increasing a little at a time. The feeling of possessing strength gradually returned to Xiao Yan's powerless body.

This training continued for a long time. Only when a thread of morning sunlight reached the sky of the desert did Xiao Yan slowly open his eyes. However, there was a shock that was difficult to hide within Xiao Yan's opened eyes.

Xiao Yan slowly widened his hands. A jade-green Dou Qi slowly surged out as his gaze stared intently at this cluster of Dou Qi. He could vaguely see a faint-silver-colored energy... that appeared to be...

“Spatial Strength?”

Xiao Yan inhaled a deep breath of air. Surprise gradually surfaced in his eyes. Spatial Strength was a mysterious strength that one needed to reach the Dou Zong class in order to be barely able to control. Before reaching that class, even an expert at the peak of the Dou Huang class did not possess the qualification to control it. However, the thread of silver-colored energy that had appeared within Xiao Yan's Dou Qi was genuine Spatial Strength!

“This Spatial Strength seems to have been left behind when the Spatial Strength within the space tunnel was destroyed. After which, for some reason, it was not scattered. Instead, it merged with my Dou Qi... it is really the case of a blessing because of a disaster.”

Xiao Yan's mused for a moment before softly muttering.

“However, regardless of what the reason... the current me seems to possess a little ability to control Spatial Strength. Although it is extremely weak, I am really in possession of it...”

The corner of Xiao Yan's mouth slowly lifted into a smile. A hand was extended out before he suddenly clenched it. When it was clenched, the space in front of him actually formed a slight distortion!

Chapter 952: Hong Clan

It was just as Han Chong had said. The journey after the Ten Thousand Snake Gorge was extremely smooth. During the remaining couple of days, they did meet with some small trouble, but it did not cause the convoy's speed to be reduced. Tian Bei City was also coming closer during these couple of days of traveling.

After some recuperation during these couple of days, Xiao Yan's strength had recovered by about seventy to eighty percent. The injuries that he had suffered within his body had also swiftly recovered under the double effect of Dou Qi and medicinal pills. Looking at this progress, it was likely that he would recover faster than he had expected.

Of course, despite the gradual recovery of his strength, Xiao Yan did not reveal any of it. He liked these forthright men of the convoy, and he did not wish to cause them to feel respectful toward him because of the revelation of his strength. He didn't want them to end up becoming distant from him after adding a little something else onto the friendship they had made during these few days.

With Xiao Yan's current strength, it was likely that even Han Xue within the convoy would have difficulty discovering it if he chose to hide his aura. Moreover, due to the little Spatial Strength within his body, even some experts at the peak of the Dou Huang class or even elite Dou Zongs would have difficulty identifying his true strength if he wanted to hide it. There was no need to even discuss about Han Xue's ability to do so.

Although Xiao Yan thought that he had hidden it perfectly, he realized that Han Xue's attitude toward him during these couple of days' journey appeared to be changed. After she had instructed Han Chong, no one asked Xiao Yan to do any manual work in the convoy. Xiao Yan laughed bitterly in his heart in the face of such special treatment. Were the instincts of a woman really this frightening? He had absolute confidence that he did not expose any traces, but Han Xue seemed to have vaguely sensed something. Occasionally a faint doubt and deep thoughts would flash in her eyes while she watched Xiao Yan.

Moreover, Han Xue would frequently appear in front of Xiao Yan when she was free and randomly chat with him. However, the content of the chat was secretly inquiring about Xiao Yan's identity and background. Of course, with the experience Xiao Yan had gained over the years, he would naturally not give himself away in front of a girl like her. The serious and vague replies caused Han Xue to return empty-handed each time. After continuing to put in effort in this direction, she felt quite furious about the feeling of having struck a pile of cotton.

Xiao Yan felt helpless in his heart in the face of this scene. He could only try his best to increase the gap between Han Xue and him to avoid really causing this sensitive woman to discover something.

Han Xue was probing and uncertain during the journey. When they set up camp on the fifth day, a messenger bird with the emblem of the Han clan flew from the distant direction of Tian Bei City.

Han Xue received the messenger bird's message from a guard's hand and slowly opened it. Her pretty eyes moved while her beautiful face slowly turned ice-cold. A fury even flashed across her eyes.

The camp, which was laughing unceasingly, became much quieter upon seeing the change in Han Xue's expression. Everyone stood up. Their gazes were focused on Han Xue at the middle.

"Xiao-jie (young lady), what has happened?" Han Chong asked with a deep voice.

"It is the letter that has been transmitted from within the clan. The letter mentioned that the Hong clan is planning to attack the Han clan soon and they asked me to be careful." Han Xue clenched her hand slightly while she spoke with an icy-cold voice.

"Hong clan? Dammit, it's these bastards again." Waves of curses sounded from all around when they heard the words 'Hong clan.'

"What are they planning to do this time around?" Han Chong frowned and asked.

Han Xue eyelashes blinked slightly. She immediately spoke in a faint

voice, "That old fellow, who will not die from the Hong clan, is thinking of getting older sister and I to marry Hong Chen together. However, his ultimate motive is to swallow our Han clan and become the true overlord of Tian Bei City."

The expressions of quite a number of people in the convoy darkened upon hearing this. Clearly, the condition that the Hong clan had issued caused them to be extremely furious.

"Dammit. Does this Hong clan really think that our Han clan can be manipulated by others as they pleased? They actually dare to make such a bastard's request." Han Chong furiously said.

Han Xue's pretty face was still ice-cold in the face of Han Chong's furious voice. Her head shifted slightly and suddenly paused on the young man seated by the side of a flame. However, he appeared to have not heard the words from this side. He merely lowered his head and toyed with the pile of fire. Seeing this, Han Xue's eyebrows were clustered together. She turned her gaze aside and coldly said, "We will be entering Tian Bei City's area tomorrow. Everyone should be extra careful."

"Understood!"

Everyone cried out in union.

Han Xue nodded her head. She snorted softly at some unknown person and walked into her own tent.

The people in the camp finally returned to the side of the fire after Han Xue's pretty figure disappeared. Their faces alternated between being bright and dark under the fire light. That so-called Hong clan seemed to be an even greater threat than the demon snake Xia Mang.

"Big brother Han, is that Hong clan very strong?"

The quiet atmosphere continued for a long time before Xiao Yan, who had been focused on maintaining the fire, stood up, stretched his lazy waist, and asked a question.

"If we really talk about it, the Hong clan is the strongest clan within the Tian Bei city. Even our Han clan is a little inferior to it. The most

important reason is that the Hong clan has a little relationship with the Wind Lightning Pavilion. The most outstanding person of this generation, Hong Chen, is someone from the Wind Lightning Pavilion and is highly regarded within it.” Han Chong sighed before speaking with a bitter smile, “The Hong clan has relied on this big tree to greatly expand its reputation and influence within these short few years. After all, the Wind Lightning Pavilion can be considered a top tier faction within the entire northern region of the Central Plains. Our Han clan is far too inferior when compared with it.”

“Wind Lightning Pavilion?” Surprise flashed across Xiao Yan’s eyes when he heard this familiar name again. The matter of this world was really filled with coincidences.

“So what if it is the Wind Lightning Pavilion? Dammit, if that Hong clan really dares to act, the old me will kill a couple of them before I die even if I cannot defeat them.” A somewhat young guard beside the fire spoke with a face filled with fury.

Han Chong did not take the angry words of these young people to heart. He patted Xiao Yan’s shoulders and said, “Brother Xiao Yan, looks like the Han clan is about to face some unrest. I will ask xiao-jie (young miss) to give you some money after reaching Tian Bei City. You should leave by yourself and avoid getting involved.”

Xiao Yan smiled, but remained non-committal.

“Alright, everyone should rest early. Increase the number of guards tonight. Everyone better keep their eyes open tomorrow. We should be safe once we return to the clan.” Han Chong sighed, stood up, and waved his hand. After which, he turned around and left, leaving everyone else to curse at the fire with furious hearts.

Xiao Yan flicked his finger gently as he stared at the somewhat tired back. A wooden stick in his hand flew into the fire. After which, it became like an arrow that shot deep underground...

Xiao Yan patted his hands and stood up. He greeted everyone before slowly returning to his tent. After entering it, he once again sighed softly

and muttered to himself.

“Ugh... something like a favor really weighs on you...”

...

The sun hung high in the sky where the clouds were absent for thousands of kilometers. Numerous light rays carried a high temperature as they repeatedly scattered down. Under this hot weather, even the trees on the sides of the road began to bend in a sickly manner.

A convoy was galloping over the spacious road, raising dust that soared to the sky along the way.

“Everyone, be more focused. We will be entering the territory of Tian Bei City soon!”

A stern cry was suddenly emitted from within the convoy. Everyone’s hearts tightened. They raised their heads and looked at the stone signboard at the end of the road. All of their hands involuntarily touched the weapons on their backs. The hands, which they used to hold the reins, also emitted some perspiration.

The convoy galloped forward like an infuriated wild bull and flew down the road with a rumbling noise. Within a short couple of minutes, they approached the stone tablet that was used as a road sign.

Xiu! Xiu! Xiu!

The convoy had just passed the stone tablet when the sharp sound of rushing wind suddenly reverberated over the place. Immediately, an innumerable number of arrows shot out of the trees on both sides of the roads, covering the entire convoy as they did so.

The sudden arrival of the arrows surprised quite a number of people. However, it was fortunate that they were already prepared. Numerous Dou Qis erupted and blocked all of the arrows.

“Ke ke, looks like they are already prepared, but unfortunately...”

Laughter was slowly emitted from the woods. Immediately a large number of black figures swiftly swarmed out and completely blocked the

road that led to Tian Bei City. The two old men at the front of the group of black figures were the ones that Han Chong and the others were most concerned about.

The two people were wearing pale-red robes. There was a similar red-colored badge on the chest area of their clothes.

“People from the Hong clan.”

Han Chong’s group shrank their eyes as they looked at the red-colored badge.

“Ke ke, Miss Han Xue, please come out. Us two old fellows have come because of you...” The two old men ignored Han Chong and the other guards. Instead, their eyes stared at the carriage where Han Xue was located as they faintly laughed.

“Creak...”

The door of the carriage was slowly opened and a pretty, cold-faced Han Xue slowly descended from it. Her frosty gaze stared at these two old men as she coldly laughed, “It is unexpected that the two Elders Hong Mu and Hong Lie have come just to catch a little girl like me. I am really honored.”

Although she spoke in this manner, Han Xue’s heart gradually sank. These two Elders of the Hong clan had a strength around that of a four star Dou Huang. They were even stronger than that Xia Mang. Now that these two had acted together... it was likely that she would have a difficult time escaping from the calamity today.

“There is no need to say this nonsense. The old me is only following orders. You should leave with us!” The expressionless Hong Lie glanced at Han Xue as he spoke.

“Dream on!”

A cold glint flashed across Han Xue’s eyes. She tightened her hand and a longsword flashed and appeared in it.

“Stubborn fool.”

Hong Lie shook his head when he saw Han Xue resisting. An impatience

flashed across his eyes. He stepped forward and appeared in front of her. With a wave of his hand, a hot, powerful wind that carried a pressurizing aura blocked all of Han Xue's paths of retreat.

A paleness surfaced on Han Xue's face as she looked at Hong Lie, who had used all his strength from the start. She immediately clenched her silver teeth and threw a palm forward.

"Bang!"

Both palms made contact and the wind that permeated out immediately shocked the surrounding people until they hurriedly stepped back. Han Xue's lovely body was like a kite whose string had broken as she hurriedly took over a dozen unsteady steps back before stabilizing her body.

"You can be considered to have some ability to receive one palm from the old me. No wonder you have caught the young master's eye." Hong Lie's body did not move. He glanced at Han Xue who had moved back. He indifferently spoke. Immediately, he stepped forward once again and appeared in front of Han Xue. The wind on his palm whistled as he continued to attack.

A tragic despondent look surfaced on Han Xue's face as she sensed Hong Lie's even fiercer attack. She basically did not have much capital to contend against an elite Dou Huang...

The palm wind suddenly arrived. However, just before it landed on Han Xue's body, an invisible force suddenly appeared. With a bang, it easily resolved Hong Lie's palm wind. The remaining strength also shook him until he took a couple of repeated steps back.

The sudden unexpected change caused everyone to feel stunned. Han Xue suddenly turned her head after being startled. Her pretty eyes locked onto the carriage where Xiao Yan was located.

"Ugh, bullying someone younger just because you are old, yet you actually act so righteously. You have really trained until you have thick skin at your age..."

A helpless voice also slowly sounded while everyone was stunned.

However, this time around, the voice was clear and strong. It was no longer that elderly tone from the last time...

Chapter 953: Intervene

The sudden unexpected turn of events caused the situation to immediately change a little. The eyes of the Hong Mu and Hong Lie cautiously swept around them. They immediately spoke in a deep voice, "Friend, this is a matter between the Hong clan and the Han clan. Please give our Hong clan this face!"

Han Chong's group was also hurriedly looking in all directions while Hong Lie's group's gazes were sweeping all around. At this moment, they had sensed that something was not quite right. If they met with a helper the first time something happened, they could attribute it to their good lucky. However, they were actually able to meet with a helper at a critical juncture the second time. This... was a little illogical.

Han Xue acted differently from the surprise of Han Chong's group. Her pretty eyes stared at that carriage. Being female, she was exceptionally meticulous over some small matters. She was certain that the voice from earlier was quite similar to Xiao Yan's voice.

"Creak..."

While the people from both parties were muttering in their hearts, a soft creaking sound slowly sounded. Everyone's gazes randomly looked over, only to see a linen-clothed, young man slowly descending from a carriage.

"Xiao Yan?"

Han Chong's group was stunned when they saw Xiao Yan reveal himself. They immediately came to some sudden understanding. Shock and disbelief swiftly surged into their eyes.

Xiao Yan spread his hands toward everyone before sighing helplessly. He slowly stepped forward and stopped beside Han Xue. He looked at her searing, pretty eyes before involuntarily revealing a bitter smile as he asked, "Are you alright?"

"It really is you!"

Han Xue's pretty eyes did not blink as they stared at Xiao Yan. A

moment later, a slyness suddenly surfaced on her beautiful face as she spoke each word softly with a pause between them.

“The instincts of a woman are really frightening...” Xiao Yan helplessly replied.

“Being able to come back alive and kicking within a short couple of days after suffering such a serious injury is not something that an ordinary person can do.” Han Xue softly laughed.

“Xiao... brother Xiao... you... you are that mysterious strong person?”

Han Chong by the side gradually widened his eyes when he heard the conversation between Xiao Yan and Han Xue. Finally, he asked with a stutter. He had never expected that the mysterious expert, whom they had been frequently talking about during these few days, was actually by their side.

Xiao Yan could only nod his head as he looked at the shock in everyone’s eyes. He immediately waved his hand and said, “We’ll talk about it after settling the trouble here.”

Everyone nodded when they heard his words. After which, their gazes turned to Hong Lie’s group. At this moment, however, there was no longer the kind of expression earlier that was unafraid of death. Instead, they gradually had a little boldness. After Xiao Yan had intervened the last time, they already had some rough understanding of Xiao Yan’s strength.

“Who are you? You seem to appear quite unfamiliar. I think that it should be your first time arriving in Tian Bei City, right?” Hong Mu halted Hong Lie, whose face was already covered with a fierce aura. His eyes focused on Xiao Yan as he spoke in a deep voice.

“Bring your men away. I will temporarily protect the people here.” Xiao Yan’s gaze swept over Hong Mu. His voice was still calm and rippleless.

“Do you really wish to offend my Hong clan?” Hong Mu’s face twitched slightly upon hearing this. His voice had an additional thread of coldness to it.

“At the very least, the two of you don’t have the qualification to capture

a person in front of me.” Xiao Yan smiled as he replied. His tone had some pride that was difficult to extinguish. This pride came from the confidence he had in his strength.

“What an arrogant brat. If you did not have the advantage of a sneak attack, how would you have been able to force back the old me? Moreover, there are two of us here!” Xiao Yan’s attitude caused the fury in Hong Lie’s heart to immediately rise. He ended up laughing in his extreme anger.

“Leave with me...”

Xiao Yan shook his head. He ignored these two noisy fellows, turned his head, and softly said to Han Xue.

Han Xue was startled when she heard this. While she was still shocked, Xiao Yan in front of her had stepped forward, walking slowly away.

Han Xue suddenly felt an unknown boldness and safe feeling surfacing from her heart as she stared at the skinny back of the person wearing ordinary linen clothes. She immediately clenched her silver teeth, waved her hand, and softly cried, “Follow!”

The convoy slowly moved. After which, it steadily followed behind Xiao Yan under a kind of strange atmosphere. The people around the convoy and Han Xue felt some perspiration faintly appearing on their palms. Currently, the only one who could be relied upon was that skinny back in front of them...

Hong Mu’s face was gloomy as he watched Xiao Yan and the convoy behind him slowly walk over. His heart had a faint killing intent churning within it. He had some difficulty clearly seeing Xiao Yan’s exact strength. However, from the way he forced back Hong Lie earlier, it was likely that he was an expert Dou Huang. Moreover, this person’s level was not weaker than theirs

Compared to the gloomy Hong Mu, the somewhat irritable Hong Lie had an unusually ugly expression. Xiao Yan’s actions basically completely looked down on them. It was really the first time that they had met such an arrogant young person in so many years.

Hong Lie's fist was slowly tightened. Creaking sounds were repeatedly emitted from it. A moment later, a ferociousness finally flashed across his eyes as he cried out, "Kill!"

Upon hearing the cry from Hong Lie, the numerous black figures from behind furiously shouted. They tightened their grip on their weapons as they carried a dense killing aura that could not be dispersed. They charged toward the convoy.

The expressions of Han Chong's group changed slightly upon seeing the opponent launch an attack. They tightened their grip on their weapons. When they were prepared to charge forward and meet the other party, Xiao Yan in front halted his footsteps. He extended his hand and gently clenched it!

An invisible ripple swiftly spread out as he clenched his hand. Immediately, the numerous black figures, that were charging over with killing intent all over their bodies, suddenly paused. Their bodies turned fiery-red almost instantly. A moment later, they spat out a mouthful of fresh blood and strangely fell down like wheat being cut...

The fresh blood that they spat out emitted a 'chi chi' sound upon landing on the ground. They swiftly transformed into a green vapor that completely dispersed...

Shock was faintly revealed in the eyes of Han Chong's group when they saw this scene. They recalled the countless numbers of poisonous snakes that had suddenly turned into ashes in the gorge back then. From the looks of it, Xiao Yan had held back. Otherwise, it was likely that these fellows would have shared the same fate as those poisonous snakes...

"Attack!"

Hong Mu eyes also shrank. He remembered the instructions from the clan head to capture Han Xue alive at all cost. He immediately inhaled a deep breath and suddenly let out a stern cry!

The cry had just left his mouth when Hong Mu moved together with him. They transformed into two red figures. Powerful Dou Qi surged from their bodies without holding back. Wherever they passed, the wild and

violent Dou Qi would leave behind two deep gullies on the ground.

Two Dou Huang's aura came pressing down like a storm, causing Han Xue and the others to feel an illusion that their breathing had come to a stop. However, that linen-clothed, young man's footsteps did not stop in front of them.

“Mysterious Fire Move!”

“Wood Aura Rise!”

Two cries erupted from Hong Lie and Hong Mu's mouth. Immediately, a hot-red glow swept out like a flame. Behind it was a green-colored Dou Qi, which swiftly chased after it and merged into the flame. Immediately, the fiery-red Dou Qi's momentum soared. The hot temperature caused the withered yellow leaves on the sides of the road to emit a 'chi' sound as ignited by themselves.

“Not a bad Dou Qi merger. However, fire is useless against me...”

Xiao Yan's footsteps finally paused as he looked at the furious dragon like hot flame that came toward him. He reached out with his hand and a jade-green flame suddenly shot out like a fire python.

“Chi!”

The two attacks collided with a 'bang.' However, that enormous hot flame seemed to have met a thunderstorm. Its speed became sluggish while the jade-green flame, that was not even as thick as an arm, completely swallowed it in one gulp after twining a couple of times...

Xiao Yan waved his sleeves after swallowing the combined attacks of Hong Mu and Hong Lie in an extremely relaxed manner. That jade-green flame transformed into lightning that shot out. Immediately, the tail of the flame was swung, forming numerous afterimages as it struck the chests of the two, who could not dodge in time.

“Bang! Bang!” A low, deep sound was emitted as the two figures flew backwards.

Hong Chong's group emitted an exclamation as they looked at Hong Lie

and Hong Mu who were swiftly moving backwards with their feet rubbing over the ground. An unusual color also flashed over Han Xue's beautiful eyes. In the Han clan, her talent was only a little weaker than her elder sister. However, if she were to be compared with Xiao Yan in front of her, there was far too large of a gap. His age seemed to be similar to hers but even Hong Lie and Hong Mu, two Elders of the Hong clan who possessed quite a strong reputation within the Tian Bei City were actually so miserably defeated... such a talent and achievement would likely not lose to even Hong Chen from the Hong clan...

“This person is too strong, retreat!”

Hong Lie and Hong Mu, whose feet were deeply rooted in the ground, managed to stabilize their bodies with much difficulty. A paleness surfaced on their faces. The young man in front of them appeared quite young, but his strength far exceeded them. It was completely pointless to continue remaining in this place. At that moment, Hong Mu decisively let out a low cry.

An unwillingness flashed across Hong Lie's face when he heard Hong Mu's cry. All he could do was nod his head. Dou Qi wings appeared on their backs and they immediately turned into two vague figures that flew away in an attempt to flee for their lives.

“Since you have already attacked, it is only natural that you cannot be allowed to leave so easily...”

Xiao Yan shook his head as he watched the two people quickly retreat. A cluster of invisible flames suddenly appeared in front of him, and a ripple swiftly spread.

“Grug!”

The invisible ripple caught up to the two fleeing people in a lightning-like manner. Immediately, the bodies of the two suddenly paused. A mouthful of hot fresh blood was spat out from each of them. Before they had the time to flee, a figure had appeared behind them in a ghost-like manner. With a flick of the figure's finger, a wind shot out and the sight of the two suddenly turned black.

This change had occurred in a split second. Han Xue and the others only sensed that the scene in front of their eyes as a blur. By the time they had recovered an instant later, two figures were being thrown down. They landed under their feet like corpses. A faint voice immediately sounded.

“I will let you deal with them...”

Han Xue lowered her head and looked at the pale-faced Hong Mu and Hong Lie. She did not know whether they were dead or alive. As she looked, she involuntarily inhaled a deep breath of air despite her cold and indifferent character...

Directly capturing two four star Dou Huangs within less than ten short exchanges. Even in her Han clan, it would be difficult to find many people with such strength...

Chapter 954: Tian Bei City

A serene fragrance was lingering within the carriage. Some hand-picked decorations decorated it, giving this carriage a female's touch. It was difficult to imagine that Han Xue, who appeared cold and indifferent on the outside, would actually possess the mentality of a little woman in her heart...

Xiao Yan was a little uneasy as he sat on a chair in the carriage. On the opposite side was Han Xue, who was retrieving a teacup and personally filling it with tea. After which, she gently pushed it in front of Xiao Yan in a somewhat unsmooth manner. From the looks of this, this young lady of the Han clan had seldom done the work of waiting on others.

However, it was also because of this that Xiao Yan felt uneasy. Having already gotten used to the cold indifference of Han Xue, he could not really adapt to her suddenly becoming so warm within such a short period of time.

Xiao Yan held the teacup and sensed the faint warmth and remnant fragrance. He raised his eyes slightly and coincidentally collided with her pretty eyes. At that moment, he involuntarily let out a bitter laugh and said, "Young Lady Han, please say what you wish to say."

"Call me Han Xue. I am really unworthy of this 'young lady'." Han Xue also slowly sat down. She glanced at Xiao Yan and softly said, "It is unexpected that the person who was on the brink of death, that we had randomly picked up in the desert, would actually be an expert who hides extremely well. Regardless of the case, Han Yue shall thank you here for rescuing us twice on this journey."

"It's nothing, if not for your help, it is likely that I might have been food to some wolf. Lending a hand and rescuing all of you is something that I ought to do. Young la... there is no need to worry about these matters. I am not after some reward from you." Xiao Yan waved his hand and laughed.

Han Xue curled her mouth into a smile. Her usual cold face also bloomed into a warm moving smile. After some hesitation, she slowly

asked, "Are you leaving once we arrive in Tian Bei City?"

"That should be the case if no accident occurs." Xiao Yan paused for a moment before nodding and replying.

Disappointment flashed across Han Xue's pretty eyes when she heard this. Her hand touched the teapot. A moment later, she summoned her courage and said, "Mister Xiao Yan, can I ask you to help me with something?"

"The matter between the Han clan and the Hong clan?" Xiao Yan placed the teacup in his hand down and inquired with a calm voice.

Han Xue bit her lower red lip with the back of her teeth and nodded gently.

"You really overestimate me. For the Hong clan to be able to dominate the Tian Bei City for so many years, its strength is definitely not weak. What help can I give with my strength alone?" Xiao Yan slowly said. Having just arrived at the Central Plains, he really did not wish to offend someone the moment he stuck his foot in this place. This was especially the case when this Hong clan had some connection with the whatever Wind Lightning Pavilion. Xiao Yan knew that this faction that had specially been introduced by Xin Lan was likely extremely strong. With his current strength, it was likely difficult for him to contend with them.

"Mister Xiao Yan should also be an alchemist too, right?" Han Xue spoke somewhat anxiously. "Moreover, your tier would likely be quite high. Even the Hong clan would likely not easily offend a high tier alchemist. Hence, if you are willing to lend a hand, the Han clan would definitely be much more relaxed."

Xiao Yan raised his eyes slightly. He looked at the pleading look and anxiety on Han Xue's face and involuntarily let out a bitter laugh. This trouble really gave him a headache.

"Mister Xiao Yan, as long as you are willing to help the Han clan through this difficulty, the Han clan will definitely give you a satisfactory reward. If... if you really think that won't do, I am willing to be your concubine. Please lend a hand!" A bright-redness suddenly surged up Han

Xue's pretty face as she clenched her silver teeth and spoke.

"Cough..." These words of hers nearly caused Xiao Yan to spit out the tea in his mouth. He hurriedly stood up, waved his hand, and said, "Don't. I am used to being alone and will really not be used to it if someone follows beside me. I will give this matter some thought. Let's leave it as it is for now. Goodbye."

Xiao Yan hurriedly turned around, pulled open the door of the carriage, and fled after saying these words. He did not expect that this ice-cold Han Xue would actually be so bold in such matters. She was even bold to the point where he was unable to endure.

Han Xue was startled as she watched Xiao Yan flee from the carriage in a miserable manner. A moment later, she let out a smile. Ever since she had met him, she had never seen this old-well-like unfathomable young man act this way. It was unexpected that he actually had such a reaction because of her words. It was really extremely interesting.

"This person is not bad... but I can tell that he is the type who doesn't like trouble. Ugh, moreover, the strength of the Hong clan is so great. Pulling him in might be a kind of trouble for him. I was a little rash..."

Han Xie laughed softly before gradually calming down. She sighed and spoke with a distant voice.

After Xiao Yan had exposed his strength, the people in the convoy gave him additional respect as he had expected. Something like the unrestrained joking from a couple of days earlier no longer occurred. Although Xiao Yan had long since expected this, he still involuntarily laughed in his heart. His strength was really so great that it was unreachable in the eyes of these people...

This kind of change caused Xiao Yan to feel a little uneasy. However, it was fortunate that there was only a short journey left. The outline of an enormous city vaguely appeared in their sight when evening approached.

Han Chong also sighed in relief when he saw the city, appearing to have released a heavy burden. Seeing their reaction, Xiao Yan also understood that this was the so-called Tian Bei City...

Xiao Yan's gaze swept randomly before taking two steps back. Coincidentally he stopped beside Han Chong, who hurriedly cupped his hands together when he saw Xiao Yan approach only to feel a gentle force blocking him. A helpless voice was immediately transmitted into his ears, "Big brother Han, there is no need to be so courteous. My life was rescued by you. Don't call me whatever mister. Just call me as you did in the past."

"Miste... Brother Xiao Yan, you're too courteous. With your current strength, it is likely that you would have been fine even without our rescue." Han Chong hesitated a little before he spoke with a smile. However, his voice still contained an awe that was difficult to hide.

Xiao Yan felt helpless. He flicked his finger and a medicinal pill landed in Han Chong's hand without leaving a trace. He softly said in a random voice, "Keep the medicinal pill properly. It can aid you in increasing your chances of success of breaking through to the Dou Wang class."

Han Chong's body suddenly trembled upon hearing this. Excitement appeared in his eyes. He had remained at the peak of the Dou Ling class for many years, but had yet to show any signs of breaking through. He knew that some high tier medicinal pills had the unique properties of aiding one in breaking through. However, the price of that kind of medicinal pill was incomparably high. How could he afford one with his wealth?

"Brother... brother Xiao Yan, this gift is too valuable..." Han Chong spoke in a trembling voice. His eyes had become somewhat red because of his excitement.

"Is it more valuable than my life?" Xiao Yan smiled and teased.

"Brother Xiao Yan, you... are you planning to leave?" Han Chong carefully stored the medicinal pill away before suddenly asking.

Xiao Yan was quiet for a moment, feeling somewhat unsure of how he should reply.

"Ke ke, brother Xiao Yan. There is nothing hard to say. You do not have much of a relationship with the Han clan. Yet, you have rescued us twice along this journey. Even if you wish to return the favor, you have already

done more than enough. The Hong clan is powerful. It would not be good if you are dragged in..." Han Chong smiled and spoke upon seeing his reaction.

Xiao Yan was silent.

Da! Da!

The sound of horse hooves was transmitted from the city's gate in the distance while Xiao Yan was chatting with Han Chong. It immediately galloped in their direction.

Han Chong's group, which had already been frightened before, hurriedly tightened the grip on the weapons in their hands upon seeing this activity. A moment later, however, a sharp-eyed person joyously said, "It's our people."

The sound of horse hooves swiftly stopped in front of the convoy. Immediately, a figure leaped down from the horse. This person looked to be around twenty-three to twenty-four years old. He was wearing some brilliant clothes and looked extremely energetic. His face was also a little handsome. His tall body gave him an imposing appearance. However, Han Chong's group knit their brows slightly together when they saw him.

Han Xue also walked out of her carriage when the sound of horse hooves appeared. Her pretty eyes paused on Xiao Yan first, but he appeared to have not sensed them. He only bothered to chat with Han Chong. Seeing this, she could only unwillingly clench her teeth, turn her head, and look at the man, who had descended from the horse. Her eyebrows were slightly knit together.

"Xue mei, are you alright?" A joy surged into the eyes of the man when he saw Han Xue. He swiftly walked forward and inquired in a concerned manner.

TL: mei – sister, can be use an intimate way of calling a younger female relative.

"I'm fine." Xue Mei randomly replied. The corner of her eyes suddenly glanced at Xiao Yan who was slowly stepping back. She quickly turned

around and cried out loud, "Stand where you are!"

Xiao Yan could only stop his body when he saw Han Xue looking over and helplessly spread his hands to Han Chong.

Han Xue's pretty eyes stared at Xiao Yan. A moment later, she appeared to have thought of something. Her eyes dimmed and she softly said, "I have acted wilfully. If mister Xiao Yan really wishes to leave, please do so. Thank you for your care during this journey. Hopefully we will have the affinity to meet again in the future."

Xiao Yan bitterly laughed after she said such words. If he were to turn around and leave after she said those words, it was likely that the others would look at him with disdain.

"Ugh, I will stay behind and take a look, but you should not place too much hope in me..." Xiao Yan sighed as he responded.

"Really?"

Han Xue said. Her dim eyes that caused one to feel one's heart shatter immediately emitted a moving expression after hearing this.

Xiao Yan could only nod his head when he saw this pretty face that appeared enchanting because of her happiness. His heart once again let out a bitter laugh. Something like a favor... was really as heavy as a mountain...

"Xue Mei, who is this? It looks as though he is extremely unfamiliar. Is he also a guard of our Han clan?" The handsome man by the side naturally felt a jealousy surge out of his heart when he saw the usually cold and indifferent Han Xue revealing such ladylike mannerisms in front of this ordinary young man. Immediately, he randomly smiled and inquired. His tone contained exceptional disdain toward the guards, which had a servant like status.

"Han Lin, you better be more courteous to my guest. He is not a guard, but an Honorary Guest whom I have invited on behalf of the Han clan. If you continue to randomly say any nonsense, don't blame me for turning against you!" Han Xue suddenly turned her body. Her pretty face appeared

to have completely transformed into a chilly one as she coldly chided.

Han Lin's face alternated between green and white upon being reprimanded by Han Xue in such a manner. He was immediately unable to control himself as he coldly laughed, "Honorary Guest? Xue Mei, I think that you have got things wrong, no? According to the rules of our clan, the first rule of an Honorary Guest is that he must have the strength of a Dou Huang. Although you are the daughter of the clan head, you cannot simply ignore the rules of the clan, can you?"

A moving smile was suddenly revealed on Han Xue's originally cold and indifferent face when she heard this. She waved her hand and some guards escorted two people from a carriage before throwing them in front of Han Lin.

"He was able to capture Hong Mu and Hong Lie, these two Elders of the Hong clan alive. Why don't you tell me if he is qualified?"

Chapter 955: Acquaintance

Han Lin was stunned when he saw these two pale-faced old man lying on the ground without showing any signs of being dead or alive. Shock flashed across his face when he recognized the two of them. He involuntarily cried out, “Hong Lie? Hong Mu? Why would they end up in your hands?”

“They have come to stop us and capture me.” Han Xue indifferently replied.

“This... this is done by him?” Han Lin’s face quivered a little as he looked at Xiao Yan with disbelief and asked in an extremely doubtful voice. Being a member of the Han clan, he was naturally extremely familiar with Hong Lie and Hong Mu. Hence, he also knew that these two fellows were genuine expert Dou Huangs. With their combined strength, these two could fight against a six star Dou Huang. Did these two people really end up defeated by the hands of this young man who appeared even younger than him?

“In that case, do you think that there is someone else in our group who can do this?” Han Xue seemed to dislike Han Lin a little. Hence, her tone was not the least bit courteous.

After being choked by Han Xue’s words, Han Lin’s expression alternated between green and white for a moment before forcefully suppressing the jealousy in his heart. If the elders in the clan knew that he treated an Honorary Guest of the clan in such a manner, he would definitely be punished.

“Ke ke, I was reckless earlier...” Han Lin smiled somewhat unnaturally toward Xiao Yan. After which, he swiftly turned his gaze to Han Xue and said, “Xue mei, let’s go. We should return to the clan first. The clan head and the others are extremely worried.”

Han Xue nodded slightly. She instructed some people to throw the unconscious Hong Mu and Hong Lie back into the carriage. After which, she swiftly turned her head to Xiao Yan and softly said, “Mister Xiao Yan,

let's go. Let me introduce the clan members to you.”

Xiao Yan frowned slightly when he heard this. He really did not wish to get too involved with the matters within the Han clan. However, when he saw the pleading look in Han Xue's eyes, he could only sigh, wave his hand, and say, “Lead the way.”

A warm smile once again appeared on Han Xue's face when she saw Xiao Yan nod his head. Her coldness seemed to have completely disappeared in front of him. This caused Han Lin by the side to burn with a furious flame within his heart. He had never seen his usually cold and indifferent cousin sister treating a man in this manner after so many years. Moreover, the thing that caused him to be cautious was that the age of this man seemed to be similar to hers.

However, he did not dare to express these emotions on his face after being made aware of Xiao Yan's strength. Hence, he could only put on a forceful smile, turn around, and led the way in front with a stomach full of fury.

The Han clan did indeed possess quite a great strength and reputation within Tian Bei City. This could be seen from how they were omitted from being checked when they entered the city.

The convoy slowly entered the city. A lively and noisy sound pounced onto them, causing Xiao Yan, who had stayed in the desert for quite a number of days, to find it difficult to adjust to within a short period of time.

The size of Tian Bei City was not smaller than any of the cities that Xiao Yan had seen in the past. Perhaps it was because of the good planning, but the entire city had a kind of majestic atmosphere. The spacious streets had an unceasing flow of people, revealing the large number of people in the city.

The Han clan was situated on the southern part of Tian Bei City. Opposite it was the Hong clan, which occupied the northern part. These two clan were like the two overlords of this city, both parties had evenly divided the city into two distinct portions...

Of course, the city also possessed some other small factions. However, they were somewhat insignificant compared to the Han and Hong clan. They could only survive within the cracks. They seemed to float around while looking up at the two large beings in the city.

Xiao Yan's group passed through the many roads and streets in the city for nearly half an hour before they slowly came to a stop in front of a courtyard that occupied an extremely vast parcel of land.

When the convoy reached the entrance of the courtyard, they coincidentally saw quite a number of carriages stopping at this place. These carriages had a similar red-colored badge. Han Xue's and Han Lin's expression changed slightly upon seeing this scene. The latter's expression was gloomy as he said, "People from the Hong clan? They actually dare to come to our Han clan and behave atrociously?"

"Enter!"

Han Xue's pretty face had also recovered its iciness. She instructed Han Chong's group to unload the goods on the convoy before leaping down from her horse. She then quickly walked into the manor. Behind her, Xiao Yan hesitated for a moment before following.

Xiao Yan followed Han Xue into the manor. Along the way, she met some female servants and became aware of what had happened after some inquiry. It seemed that not long after Han Lin left, the Hong clan had led some people to barge into the Han clan. Currently, both parties were entangled with each other in the Meeting Room.

Han Xue increased the speed of her footsteps when she became aware of the location. She led Xiao Yan and Han Lin through various small paths before an extremely majestic-looking hall appeared in front of Xiao Yan's eyes. Despite being quite far away, Xiao Yan was able to vaguely see the many figures that had gathered within the Meeting Room.

Han Xue gently waved her hand as they approached. She led Xiao Yan to a corner where they were coincidentally able to see the interior of the Meeting Room. Her pretty eyes were focused intently on the interior of the hall.

Xiao Yan's gaze also followed hers and looked over. It swept once around the hall before suddenly pausing on a silver-colored bright figure. His face immediately became stunned.

"Han Yue? Why would she be her? She's a member of the Han clan? No wonder I thought Han Xue was a little familiar when I saw her. They are actually sisters..."

Xiao Yan gained a deep impression of this senior within the Inner Academy back then. At that time, he had quietly snatched away the Core Quenching Body Milk, which she had tried to obtain with much difficulty. He had been feeling somewhat apologetic over it. However, by the time he had come out of the Blazing Sky Qi Refining Tower two years later, Han Yue had already graduated and left. Thus, this had become regret in his heart. Unexpectedly, the first faction that he had come into contact with upon arriving in the Central Plains would be her clan. The word 'affinity' was really something difficult to fathom.

.....

The atmosphere within the Meeting Room was quite tense. Many experts from the Hong clan had crossed their hands in front of their chests as they looked at the members of the Han clan with a cold smile. Seated at their leader's spot was a green-clothed man. The man was around twenty-six to twenty-seven. His face could not be considered handsome, but it also possessed an allure. Between his brows was a boastful aura that was difficult to hide. However, he did possess the capital to act in this domineering manner.

"Hong Chen, aren't you going a little overboard by bringing people to barge into my Han clan today? Don't think that you can act fearlessly just because you are a disciple of the Wind Lightning Pavilion. The reason our Han clan has stood in this Tian Bei City for so many years is not because we are trampled on by others!" A middle-aged man in brilliant clothes slowly said in the large hall. His voice was not very loud, but it possessed authority even without anger.

"Uncle Han need not threaten this nephew. The reason I am here today

is to ask if there is a reply to the condition that my Hong clan had mentioned a couple of days ago?" That green-clothed man, who was called Hong Chen, smiled in an unbothered manner. His gaze immediately turned to the silver-haired lady by the side whose face did not show the slightest ripple before parting his mouth and laughing.

TL: the nephew is not blood related in this case. It is just a term to refer to someone of the younger generation in acquainted family.

"Our Han clan does not have the custom of having two daughters waiting on one husband. Moreover, I will also not allow such a thing to happen. My Han clan will definitely not agree to the request of your Hong clan!" The middle-aged man spoke decisively.

"Hee hee, in that case, you should not blame our Hong clan for not taking into account our relationship!" Hearing this, Hong Chen's face also appeared gloomy as he replied with a cold smile.

"Even if my Han clan cannot be compared with your Hong clan, I dare to say that if your Hong clan wishes to swallow my Han clan, you will definitely suffer a serious loss!" The middle-aged man stared at Hong Chen in a dense manner as he slowly spoke.

Hong Chen once again coldly laughed. He stood up and randomly said, "Perhaps uncle Han is unaware that this nephew has recently formally become the Inner Hall disciple of the Wind Lightning Pavilion."

Hong Chen's words appeared like a heavy bomb, which had been thrown into the hall. Not only did everyone expressions greatly change, but even the usually expressionless Han Yue also twitched her long eyelashes.

The middle-aged man's eyes became gloomier. Under this gloominess was also a bitterness. He did not expect that this Hong Chen would actually be able to become an Inner Hall disciple of the Wind Lightning Pavilion. Therefore, the authority he had to speak within the Wind Lightning Pavilion would be increased quite significantly, and the influence of the Hong clan would greatly expand...

"On account of the Han clan once having some relationship with the

Hong clan, I can give your Han clan a path. As long as your Han clan can find someone in the same generation, regardless of whether the person is from the Han clan, to defeat me on the Sky Stone Stage in the city three days from now, my Hong clan will not find trouble with your Han clan for ten years. Of course, if you lose, Han Xue and Han Yue will be mine! What do you say?" Hong Chen laughed out loud and immediately spoke when he saw the faces of the members of the Han clan drastically change.

The middle-aged man and some elders of the Han clan involuntarily changed their expressions when they heard this. Although the words of this Hong Chen were arrogant, his training talent was indeed exceptional. Otherwise, he would not have been picked by the Wind Lightning Pavilion. His current strength was likely around that of a seven or eight star Dou Huang. Among the same generation, who was a match for him? This competition was basically one used to bully others... however, if they did not accept the match, it was likely that the Hong clan would use the physical force method. If the Wind Lightning Pavilion were to intervene at that time, the Han clan... would really have difficulty escaping this calamity...

Silence continued for a long time within the hall. Finally, it was broken by a chilly voice.

"Alright, my Han clan will accept the challenge. However, if we lose, I will marry you, but my sister won't!"

Hong Chen suddenly raised his head. His eyes were heated as he looked at the silver-haired Han Xue. A moment later, he laughed out loud, "Alright, we will do as you say. It is fine if I marry the elder sister first! Since this is the case, Hong Chen shall bid everyone goodbye for today. We will meet on the Sky Stone Stage three days later!"

Hong Chen waved his hand after his words sounded. After which, he led the large group and swarmed out. Finally, they swiftly disappeared outside of the courtyard.

The atmosphere within the hall was still quiet as everyone watched Hong Chen leave. A moment later, the middle-aged man finally sighed

softly and said, "Yue-er, do you have the confidence?"

"No..." Han Yue tightened her hand. She inhaled a breath of air and said, "However, is there any other method than this? In the Tian Bei City, there are hardly anyone in the same generation who could advance to the Dou Huang class. Those who could contend with Hong Chen basically do not exist. They are pushing our Han clan to the path of death. Only by doing this will we be able to gain some time to breathe..."

"Who says? I have a better choice!"

Han Yue's voice had just sounded when a clear alluring voice was transmitted from outside of the hall. Everyone raised their heads and saw Han Xue running in. All of them rejoiced.

"Girl, you are finally back... however, there is no need for you to randomly get involved in the matter here." The middle-aged man looked at Han Xue, gave her a doting smile before waving his hand. Hong Chen naturally had quite a lot of confidence for him to say those things. He had difficulty finding an opponent among the same generation within Tian Bei City. How would there be a more suitable choice for the Han clan than Han Yue?

Han Xue did not explain more in the face of the middle-aged man's words. She turned around, faced outside, and said, "Come in."

Everyone in the hall involuntarily raised their heads with surprise when they saw her actions. Some muttering noises also sounded within their hearts as their gazes were thrown out of the hall. Did this girl really have a better choice?

A moment later, a linen-clothed, young man wore a helpless expression as he slowly entered the room in front of everyone's eyes. His gaze paused on Han Yue, who had suddenly stood up upon seeing him. He dryly laughed, "Senior Han Yue, it has been a couple of years since we last met. How are you..."

Chapter 956: Feel Out

Even with Han Yue's character, her small peach-blossom-like mouth had involuntarily widened the moment she saw the delicate and handsome face, that wore an awkward smile, belonging to the young man in an ordinary linen garment. A long while later, she finally cried out in surprise, "Xiao Yan? Why are you here?"

Xiao Yan spread his hands. It would be a long story if he were to answer that.

"Huh? Sis, are you acquainted with mister Xiao Yan?" Han Xue was similarly stunned when Han Yue called out Xiao Yan's name. The matters of this world could not be so coincidental, could they?

Han Yue's pretty eyes stared at Xiao Yan. A moment later, she let out a sweet smile. Her gorgeous blooming-flower-like smile caused the tense atmosphere within the hall to lessen a little. Her beautiful eyes roamed once around Xiao Yan before she teasingly said, "I am naturally acquainted with him. If we were to talk about it, I can be considered his senior in school."

"Ke ke, is this little brother also a student of the Inner Academy in the Jia Nan Academy? It is rumored that the requirement the Inner Academy place on accepting students is extremely strict. By being able to enter it, this little brother should also be an extremely talented individual." The middle-aged man in brilliant clothes by the side smiled as he spoke at this moment. These words were not empty words. He had weighed Xiao Yan in detail when he had first appeared. After which, he was surprised to discover that even he, who had half a foot in the Dou Zong class, was unable to clearly see the bottom line of this young man...

"This is my father, the clan head of the Han clan, Han Chi." Han Xue softly introduced Xiao Yan.

"He is more than just a talented individual. He dared to challenge an expert Dou Huang when he was just a Da Dou Shi. After entering the Inner Academy for less than a year, he had become a top three existence

in the Strong Ranking. This kind of guts and talent is incomparable within the Inner Academy.” Han Yue covered her mouth and softly laughed. Her elegant demeanor was extremely attractive.

The expressions of the members of the Han clan in the hall changed a little when they heard her words. They had a clear understanding of the Jia Nan Academy. Naturally, they knew that most of the students there possessed great talent. Moreover, those who could become the top individuals there were all undoubtedly extremely outstanding people. It was unexpected that this seemingly ordinary man actually possessed such a background.

Han Xue also turned her head to look at Xiao Yan. She was surprised after hearing Han Yue’s words. The brilliance in her pretty eyes was even denser. She had heard Han Yue mention the so-called Strong Ranking in the Jia Nan Academy. Even with Han Yue’s talent, she could be ranked behind the top ten. Those people in the top ten were all extremely talented individuals. The top three might have to be described with the word ‘monster’...

“Senior Han Yue has praised me a little too much. Those things are only because I have good luck.” Xiao Yan bitterly laughed as he shook his head when he saw Han Yue praising him.

Han Yue smiled slightly. Seeing that Xiao Yan did not wish to get entangled over these matters, she changed the topic and asked somewhat curiously, “Why are you together with Xue-er?”

Han Xue by the side quickly took over the conversation when she heard this. She roughly spoke about what had happened in the desert and the things that had happened along the way.

“So that’s what happened... we really have to thank little brother Xiao Yan. If you had not lent a hand, it is likely that my young daughter and the Han clan’s convoy would have difficulty escaping from calamity.” The brilliantly robed man’s expression changed when he heard Han Xue explain the unexpected events along the way. He immediately stood up, cupped his hands to Xiao Yan, and spoke with a deep voice.

“Clan Head Han is too courteous. It is only natural that I return the favor after being rescued by others.” Xiao Yan smiled as he spoke.

“Ke ke, since you are acquainted with Yue-er and you are also Xue-er’s savior, you can call me uncle Han if you do not dislike it. The term clan head Han is really too unfamiliar.” Han Xhi waved his head and laughed in a clear voice.

Hearing this, Xiao Yan found it difficult to reject and could only nod his head.

“Father, is the Hong clan here to create trouble again?” Seeing that both parties were briefly acquainted, Han Xue suddenly bunched up her eyebrows and asked.

“Ugh, the Hong clan has always wanted to dominate the Tian Bei City alone. They have always seen our Han clan as an eyesore. It was nothing in the past when our strength were approximately the same. However, Hong Chen has recently returned to Tian Bei City. It is rumored that he has already become an Inner Hall disciple in the Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion. His status is already very different from the past. Using this, the Hong clan’s reputation has also soared. Currently, many neutral factions within Tian Bei City are already leaning toward the Hong clan.” Han Chi sighed as he explained the situation.

Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion? Isn’t it Wind Lightning Pavilion?” Xiao Yan asked Han Xue in a somewhat doubtful soft voice when he heard this.

“The Wind Lightning Pavilion is divided into four pavilions, namely the north, south, east, and west. They are situated in the four corners of the northern region of the Central Plains. That Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion is on the Qi Feng Mountain five hundred kilometers from Tian Bei City. Hong Chen is the Inner Hall disciple of the Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion.” Han Xue explained.

Xiao Yan finally came to a sudden understanding. Immediately, he once again felt shocked at the strength of the Wind Lightning Pavilion. Just a branch pavilion was sufficient to cause the Han clan such fear.

“Although part of the reason that Hong Chen has made such a request for your sister and you to marry him is because you and your sister have caught his eye, a greater part of it is perhaps because he is planning to gradually erode our Han clan... I will naturally not agree to such a request and trick. The Hong clan might be powerful, but it is likely that they would suffer a great loss if they were to really attack our Han clan.” Han Chi slowly spoke.

Han Xue tightened her hand and coldly said, “Therefore, that fellow has proposed such a request to get a person from the same generation to fight him?”

“Ugh... the most outstanding person in the Han clan from the same generation is your elder sister. However, she has currently only just advanced to the Dou Huang class. Moreover, this is because she had a special encounter. That Hong Chen, however, is at the very least a seven star Dou Huang level. Adding the many high class Dou Skills from the Wind Lightning Pavilion, Han Yue is no match for him.” Han Chi bitterly laughed and continued, “Moreover, forget about the Han clan. Among the same generation within Tian Bei City, one would be hard pressed to find someone who could contend with Hong Chen. Hong Chen is naturally full of confidence to boldly mention such a condition... hence, the Han clan does indeed have some trouble this time around...”

“It might be a little troublesome, but it is not impossible to resolve. Of course, the precondition is if someone is willing to lend a hand...” Han Yue smiled and suddenly piped up.

Numerous gazes in the hall immediately took the hint and were thrown to Xiao Yan after they heard her words. Han Xue also nodded her head by the side. “That’s right. Mister Xiao Yan is very strong. If he can help, he will be able to defeat Hong Chen!”

Xiao Yan involuntarily felt somewhat helpless upon being looked at by so many people. These two sisters had a coldness that kept people at a great distance on their surface. However, they seemed to hide a cunningness under that coldness.

Han Yue clenched her silver teeth when she saw Xiao Yan's helpless expression. She immediately took a couple of steps forward and used a voice that only the both of them could hear, "Xiao Yan, this matter is extremely important to my Han clan. Hopefully, you can lend a hand on account of our relationship in the past. At the very most, I will not bother you about how you secretly took the Core Quenching Body Milk that I found."

Xiao Yan's expression immediately became embarrassed when he heard this. He awkwardly asked, "Senior Han Xue, you... how did you know about that?"

"Have you forgotten that the big ape guarding the Core Quenching Body Milk knw how to speak the human language?" Han Yue softly laughed.

Xiao Yan smiled bitterly. It had actually been that beast...

"What do you say?" Han Yue's gaze was locked onto Xiao Yan. Her pretty eyes contained a begging expression.

Xiao Yan entered his thoughts.

Seeing that Xiao Yan had become quiet, Han Yue was involuntarily a little disappointed. She gently bit the her lower lip, appearing to summon up her courage. She said, "As long as you can help my Han clan through this crisis, I... I..."

"Are you also thinking of becoming my concubine?" The corner of Xiao Yan's mouth twitched as he continued her words.

A redness surged onto Han Yue's pretty face when she heard this. Even her lovely ear tips had become fiery hot.

"Ugh, don't say this. I am really afraid..." Xiao Yan bitterly laughed. They were indeed sisters. Could their hearts resonate with each other? They knew just what he was most afraid of...

"I cannot guarantee anything. All I can say is that I will try my best..." Xiao Yan sighed. Perhaps it was because he felt a little apologetic for having secretly stolen the Core Quenching Body Milk that Han Yue had found. Hence, Xiao Yan nodded slowly after musing for a moment.

Surprise surfaced in Han Yue's pretty eyes when she saw Xiao Yan nod his head. Her eyes were shining as she stared at him, "Really?"

Xiao Yan could only nod once again under the focus of those shiny eyes.

"Father, since Hong Chen was the one who threw out those words that said his opponent would be counted as long as it was someone of his generation regardless of whether that person was a member of the Han clan, mister Xiao Yan would definitely be the best choice." Han Xue smiled sweetly toward Xiao Yan before turning around to speak to Han Chi.

"Ke ke, as your father, I will naturally trust your eyesight. However, this matter has too great of an implication. Although little brother Xiao Yan was able to capture Hong Lie and Hong Mu alive, this point is something that Hong Chen can also do. Being a disciple of the Wind Lightning Pavilion, he knows many powerful high class Dou Techniques . Forget about those of the same level, even those who are one or two stars stronger than him would likely have difficulty completely defeating him. These words might cause a blotch to form on little brother Xiao Yan's heart, but knives and swords don't have eyes in such a match. If any accident happens to you as a result, our Han clan would feel extremely sorry..." Han Chi hesitated for a moment before speaking with a bitter smile.

"Father, you don't believe that mister Xiao Yan can defeat Hong Chen?" Han Xue by the side stomped her foot. She had spent a great amount of breath in order to invite this great-god-like being over. If these words of Han Chi were to offend him, where would she go crying to?

Han Chi could only smile bitterly as he was questioned by his two daughters in this manner. It was not that he did not trust Xiao Yan, but Hong Chen's strength was indeed too great. If they were to lose this match, it would affect the rest of Han Yue's life. Forget about him, it was likely that the entire Han clan, with the exception of these two girls, would not dare to be so careless...

"Xue-er, Yue-er, there is no need to continue forcing elder brother. Why don't we do this. Since the both of you have such confidence in this little

brother Xiao Yan, why don't you allow uncle to come forward and test him? After all, this matter concerns the survival of the Han clan and cannot afford even the slightest oversight..." A middle-aged man who appeared around forty or so slowly stood up and smiled as he suggested something to Han Xue and Han Yue.

"As long as this little brother Xiao Yan is able to endure my attacks for ten exchanges without being defeated, we will allow him to participate in this match. What do you say?"

Han Xue and Han Yue hesitated a moment when they heard this. They exchanged gazes with one another before turning their heads to look at Xiao Yan. They spoke in a somewhat uncertain soft manner, "This is my second uncle Han Tian. His strength is around that of an eight star Dou Huang. You... do you have the confidence?"

Xiao Yan similarly understood the importance of the match with Hong Chen toward the Han clan and Han Yue. Hence, he was a little moved by the confidence Han Xue and Han Yue had in him. They were betting their entire fate on him.

Xiao Yan softly laughed. He slowly stepped forward, cupped his hands toward Han Tian, and said, "If I am struck by you even once within ten exchanges, I will cease mentioning this matter!"

The entire hall was in an uproar the moment these words sounded!

Chapter 957: Nine Turning Wind Steps

Upon hearing these words of Xiao Yan, even Han Xue and Han Yue in the hall also became stunned. He would withdraw if his body was touched within ten exchanges? Although they were really confident in Xiao Yan, Han Tian was ultimately a genuine eight star Dou Huang regardless of how one put it. Even if Xiao Yan's actual strength was similar to his, saying these words was really a little arrogant...

"Ke ke, looks like little brother Xiao Yan really has great confidence in himself." Han Chi laughed. He was the first to recover after being stunned for a moment. Most of the people who could enter the Inner Academy were extremely talented individuals. Since Xiao Yan in front of him dared to open his mouth to say such words, he either purposefully used this to escape from the matter or he was really confident in his own strength. He really hoped that it was the latter in such a situation.

"Xiao Yan... you... can you do it? Second uncle practices wind affinity Qi Methods. Agility is something that he specializes in. If you do this..." Han Yue hesitated for a moment before turning her head and softly speaking to Xiao Yan.

"Since the both of you have praised me all the way up to the sky in front of so many people, it would be my fault for appearing ordinary..." Xiao Yan smiled. His gaze paused on Han Tian and said, "Mister Han Tian, please attack."

"Ha ha, good fellow. This arrogance can really compete with that Hong Chen. Alright, since you insist on doing so, I shall try and see how you will stop me from touching you within ten exchanges!" Han Tian laughed loudly. He stepped forward and powerful Dou Qi surged from his body like floodwater. Immediately, numerous spiralling winds formed around him. The wild wind that howled, blew away the layer of dust on the ground of the hall.

"Be careful..."

Seeing Han Tian maneuvering his Dou Qi, Han Yue and Han Xue also

hurriedly stepped back. They reminded Xiao Yan in a worried manner.

Xiao Yan tilted his head. However, his body did not move even a little. His sleeves fluttered under the wild wind that headed toward him, but his dark-black eyes had become exceptionally bright at this moment.

“Little brother Xiao Yan, you should be careful. This Nine Turning Wind Steps is a Dou Skill that gave me my reputation. Today, I shall display it. Do not blame me for bullying someone younger just because I am older.” The dense wind lingered over Han Tian’s legs as he softly cried out. Immediately, his feet stomped forward!

“Chi!”

A wild wind was stirred after his footsteps fell. Han Tian’s body instantly disappeared within the howling wind.

A glow flashed across Xiao Yan’s eyes. In the next instant, his body suddenly stepped forward without any forewarning. Following the movement of his body, a hand that was wrapped by dense Dou Qi flew past him.

“What sharp perception!”

“Flowing wind second turn!”

Surprise immediately flashed across Han Tian’s eyes after his first palm missed. Immediately, his feet swiftly formed two mysterious arcs, transforming his body into a spiraling wind that pounced toward Xiao Yan.

Xiao Yan merely smiled in the face of Han Tian, who was closely following him. His feet landed on the ground and an explosion sounded under them. A pushing force caused Xiao Yan’s body to shoot forward.

Exploding Steps, Xiao Yan’s first kind of agility Dou Skill. He had not displayed it for many years after gaining the Three Thousand Lightning Movement, Now that he had used it with his micro control, the effects were naturally not something that could be compared with back then.

“Third turn!”

Xiao Yan had just stabilized himself when a sudden sharp cry was suddenly emitted from behind him. A wild wind surged over.

Xiao Yan's expression did not change. His right foot gently pressed on the ground. His toes adhered to the ground and swiftly slanted his body, narrowly dodging the attack that came from behind him.

The entire interior of the hall was basically permeated by his Spiritual Strength. Even the slightest activity would be sensed by Xiao Yan. Although Han Tian's so-called Nine Turning Wind Steps was able to stir a wild wind that would hide his body, it was totally ineffective in the face of the probing Spiritual Strength. In other words, every single action of his was clearly imprinted in Xiao Yan's mind. In such a situation, it was easier said than done to strike Xiao Yan. Moreover, if one were to talk about the exquisiteness of ability, Han Tian had some gaps when compared to Xiao Yan...

"Good fellow, you do have some ability! Fourth turn!"

Han Tian's expression also gradually became solemn after three of his attacks were narrowly dodged by Xiao Yan. He let out a deep cry and a dense-green-colored Dou Qi whistled and rotated over the surface of his body. A suction force surged out from within it, causing everyone in the hall to hurriedly step back.

The suction force surged and the speed of Han Tian also greatly soared. With a 'xiu' sound, he transformed into a green glow that shot toward Xiao Yan. However, the latter dodged it once again with an angle that an ordinary person would not expect.

"Fifth turn!"

"Sixth turn!"

"..."

The battle within the hall became more and more intense. Han Tian's speed also became more and more frightening. In the end, almost no one, other than a couple of people, could see his figure. All they could sense was the suction force that repeatedly spread from the spiraling wind.

Despite this being the case, the linen-clothed, young man's expression still remained calm. His footsteps would occasionally advance and occasionally withdraw or perhaps he would tilt sideways. Each slight movement enabled him to barely dodge Han Tian's attack...

"Impressive..."

Han Xue's pretty face was filled with joy as she watched the relaxed Xiao Yan. She ended up involuntarily exclaiming in a soft voice.

"He is indeed very frightening. Looks like he has become much stronger during these years..." Han Yue also nodded slightly. Although Xiao Yan could fight with an expert Dou Huang in the past, he was far from this leisurely strolling manner.

"This person is very strong!"

Han Chi looked at the dazzling exchange in the battleground. His face had also gradually turned solemn before he spoke in a deep voice a moment later.

"If he were to engage in a life and death battle with second brother, it is likely that second brother would be no match for him. According to my guess, this person might really be able to fight with Hong Chen." A man who looked somewhat similar to Han Chi slowly spoke.

"Ke ke, let's continue watching and see if he is really able to completely dodge all of second brother's Nine Turning Wind Steps." Han Chi smiled and replied as his eyes watched the battle.

.....

"Nine turns!"

Han Tian's face had already turned green at this moment. A deep-green-colored spiraling wind wildly rotated under his feet. The hard ground was also cracked apart as he moved, revealing the soil under it.

"Xiu!"

The green glow flashed across the large hall. In the end, however, it merely touched Xiao Yan's sleeves as it flew past.

“Ten turns, Nine Wind Steps!”

Han Tian suddenly let out a stern cry when his attack missed again. His body turned around and transformed into a wind. He took nine strides in a circle-like manner ten feet from Xiao Yan with lightning-like speed. Following the nine steps, nine deep-green-colored rotating winds appeared, completely sealing all of Xiao Yan's paths of retreat!

“Join!”

Han Tian's hand seal moved and the nine spiraling winds immediately emitted a whirring wind sound. Immediately, they rotated in a wild manner and tore toward Xiao Yan in the middle.

“This time around, I will see just how you dodge it!” Han Tian laughed out loud at Xiao Yan who was sealed within the spiraling wind.

“Stop!”

A soft cry was emitted from the middle of the nine spiraling winds the moment Han Tian's laughter sounded. Immediately, the space fluctuated slightly. The nine spiraling wind actually paused for an instant!

The instant the spiraling winds paused, a silver glow flashed out in a lightning-like manner. It immediately transformed into a human figure that slowly appeared in front of everyone.

“Mister Han, thank you for allowing me to win!”

Xiao Yan cupped his hands together, grinned, and spoke to Han Tian, whose smile had already stiffened on his face.

“Spatial Strength? You are an elite Dou Zong?”

After the dullness continued for a moment, shock suddenly surged onto Han Tian's face as he involuntarily cried out loud. The slight spatial distortion strength that Xiao Yan had used earlier to pause the spiraling wind was clearly the Spatial Strength that only an elite Dou Zong could use.

Han Tian's face was not the only one which was shocked. Everyone in the hall, including Han Chi had stunned faces at this moment. Being an

expert with half a foot in the Dou Zong class, he was even more sensitive to Spatial Strength. In that moment earlier, he was certain that Xiao Yan had indeed used a spatial distortion that only an elite Dou Zong could perform.

“Ke ke, mister Han Tian is mistaken. I have yet to reach that level. This Spatial Strength is something that I can barely use because of some lucky encounter. However, it can only perform some insignificant help.” Xiao Yan shook his head as he replied with a smile.

The shock on everyone’s faces was reduced only after hearing this. A twenty-year-old or so Dou Huang was already the limit that they could endure. If he was a Dou Zong, it was likely that anyone who saw him would say ‘monster’...

“Little brother Xiao Yan is really humble. Spatial Strength is the indicator of an elite Dou Zong. Being able to control it with the strength of a Dou Huang is enough to shock people. I have lost this match. Ke ke, it is really the case of the new generation replacing the old. With your talent and ability, it is likely that you will be able to make a name for yourself even in this Central Plains...” Han Tian gently exhaled. His eyes suddenly landed on Han Xue and Han Yue. He smiled and said, “The eyesight of you two girls is also quite good...”

These words, with a double meaning, caused these two ladies’ pretty faces to instantly become fiery-red.

Han Chi also laughed. His gaze slowly swept across Xiao Yan. Although he was wearing some ordinary linen clothes, this ordinary young man appeared like a sharp sword at this moment. Perhaps due to him having just fought with someone, he emitted a heavy pressurizing feeling that caused one to have difficulty underestimating him.

Han Chi stood up, cupped his hands solemnly to Xiao Yan and said in a deep voice, “Brother Xiao Yan, if the Han clan is able to survive the danger this time, the Han clan will never forget your favor!”

The many members of the Han clan behind Han Chi also stood up in unison with solemn faces. They cupped their hands together and bowed to

Xiao Yan!

Han Xue and Han Yue by the side exchanged glances before taking a step back and bowing slightly to Xiao Yan.

Xiao Yan bitterly laughed in the face of such great courtesy. Looks like this matter was indeed extremely important to the Han clan. He could only sigh, cup his hands, and say in a deep voice.

“Xiao Yan will definitely do his best!”

Chapter 958: Zhu Gan

The smile on Han Chi's face became even denser when he heard Xiao Yan's words. He cupped his hands together and said, "In that case, I will thank little brother Xiao Yan for lending us your support. Please tell us if there is anything that you require the Han clan to do."

Although it was not impossible to find someone to defeat Hong Chen within the Han clan given its strength, these people were mostly the elders of the clan. However, if they were to act, it was likely that those old fellows from the Hong clan would not just sit idly and watch. This matter was restricted to the younger generation. If one were to seriously talk about it, there was really no one among the younger generation of the Han clan who could defeat Hong Chen. Xiao Yan's sudden appearance at this time could be considered to have resolved a difficult situation for the Han clan.

Xiao Yan mused for a moment before speaking, "I require some medicinal ingredients. The injuries within my body have yet to completely heal. During these three days, I need to get myself to recover to my peak condition."

"Oh? Brother Xiao Yan is still injured?" Han Chi and the others were surprised when they heard this. Their opinion of Xiao Yan was once again raised significantly. He was able to easily dodge Han Tian's attack in his injured condition. It seemed that their hidden evaluation of him was a little low.

"Ke ke, it's not a problem. This is the chief alchemist of my Han clan, old mister Zhu Gan. He is a tier 5 alchemist. Allow this elder to help take a look at you. It should be of some help to your injuries." Han Chi's gaze turned to an indifferent-looking old man beside him. This person had white hair and a beard. He was wearing an alchemist robe with a medicinal cauldron badge on his chest. On the medicinal cauldron were five bright ripples that were extremely glaring.

Xiao Yan had already seen this old man when he had entered the room earlier. However, the other party was clearly a little haughty. He had been

keeping his eyes shut since the beginning. Of course, one could not say that this elder was arrogant. Rather, most of the high tier alchemist in the Central Plains acted in this manner. Moreover, the status of an alchemist also gave them sufficient qualification to do so...

If one were to really talk about the strength of this Zhu Gan, he had at the very most just reached the Dou Huang class. Such a strength was nothing to the Han clan. However, his tier 5 alchemist status caused him to possess an extremely high position in the Han clan. From this, one could tell just how hot the demand of an alchemist in the Central Plains was.

Despite vaguely being aware of just where the superiority of this old man originated from, Xiao Yan would naturally not take the initiative to form some relationship given his character. This was just a tier 5 alchemist... the Han clan might regard him as a treasure, but in Xiao Yan's eyes, this person was unimportant and ordinary.

At this moment, this so-called old mister Zhu Gan finally opened his eyes slowly upon hearing Han Chi's words. His eyes glanced at Xiao Yan before immediately speaking in an indifferent manner, "Come over and allow the old me to have a look."

A strange expression involuntarily flashed over Xiao Yan's face when he heard this. With his current alchemy level, he was definitely at the middle to upper levels of a tier 6 alchemist if one were to evaluate his skills. The old man opposite him was at the very most a tier 5 alchemist, yet this old man actually dared to say such words to him.

The gap between each tier among alchemists was just like that between medicinal pills. They were heaven and earth apart. Unless it was because of some special reason like the 'Heavenly Flame' or some extremely outstanding Spiritual Strength, it was extremely difficult for one to leap across a tier and successfully refine a medicinal pill. The reason Xiao Yan was able to do this was entirely because he had fulfilled both criterias...

Xiao Yan smiled as he thought of this in his heart. He slowly walked forward and handed his hand to Zhu Gan.

Zun Gan did not even stand up. He simply just sat on the chair and glanced at Xiao Yan. His shriveled hand was placed on Xiao Yan's hand and a Spiritual Strength was immediately transmitted into Xiao Yan's body.

“Roar!”

Zhu Gan's Spiritual Strength had just entered Xiao Yan's body when his Spiritual Perception suddenly changed. An invisible beast head formed from a flame appeared within Xiao Yan's body. After which, it violently roared at the Spiritual Strength belonging to Zhu Gan!

A shocking Spiritual Strength erupted like a volcano when the roar sounded. Under that powerful Spiritual Strength, the Spiritual Strength belonging to Zhu Gan appeared just like a wild beast that had met a tiger, the king of the mountain. A whimper sounded as it carried a horror. It followed its original path and fled for its life.

Within the large hall, Zhu Gan, who had his eyes tightly shut, suddenly revealed shock on his face. He threw aside Xiao Yan's hand as though he had been electrocuted. The chair under his body was shattered and his body also ended up hurriedly withdrawing by a couple of steps. He looked at Xiao Yan as though he had seen a ghost and spoke with a quivering voice, “You... you...”

Zun Gan was naturally able to sense the beast that had appeared in Xiao Yan's body earlier. It was formed from an extremely frightening flame. The thing that frightened Zun Gan the most, however, was that the interior of the flame hid a frightening Spiritual Strength that was ten to a hundred times stronger than his!

Compared with this Spiritual Strength, he was just like something floating under a large tree. All he could do was look up to it without having the slightest ability to fight it.

Zhu Gan was certain that the enormous Spiritual Strength was something that even some tier 6 alchemists did not possess. However, this young man in front of him who seemed to be around twenty years old... was it possible... was it possible that he was also an alchemist? Moreover,

this young man's tier... was definitely higher than his!

"Old mister Zhu Gan, what is it?" The sudden frightened act of Zhu Gan also caused Han Chi's group by the side to be startled. They hurriedly inquired.

"Ke ke, the interior of my body is a little strange. Old mister Zhu Gan has been shocked a little. It's fine." Xiao Yan smiled. After which, he took a piece of white paper from the table beside him in passing and wrote some medicinal ingredients he required on it. After which, he flicked his finger and the white paper flew to Zhu Gan. He said, "Please help me gather all of these medicinal ingredients that I require. Being a tier 5 alchemist, you should be aware of whether the medicinal strength of some medicinal ingredients is preserved well. Get someone to pass them to me once you are done."

The words of Xiao Yan were not very polite. They were full of a commanding tone. This caused Han Chi and the others to bitterly smile. This Zhu Gan was not someone from the Han clan. Moreover, the Han clan had spent quite a great effort to invite him to be their chief alchemist. There are few members within the clan who are able to get him to do anything. He was a living buddha who did not listen to anyone. This was even more so in the face of Xiao Yan's impolite tone.

However, while Han Chi was prepared to say something to mediate the situation, Zhu Gan hurriedly received the white paper. After reading the ten plus medicinal ingredients written on it, the shock in his eyes grew even denser. With his eyesight, he was naturally able to tell that these medicinal ingredients would only be used when refining some high tier medicinal pills.

"You... mister, please rest assured that I will choose the medicinal ingredients which have had their medicinal strength best preserved." Zhu Gan carefully took the white paper, hurriedly cupped his hands together, and reassured him. At this moment, he was certain that this young man in front of him was definitely an alchemist. Moreover, the tier of this young man was absolutely higher than his.

After verifying this, a storm involuntarily surged within Zhu Gan's heart. Most alchemists had a teacher-disciple relationship when passing on the knowledge of alchemy. By being able to groom such a young high tier alchemist, it was likely that Xiao Yan's teacher was not some unknown person. He might well be some grandmaster existence within the Central Plains region...

Upon seeing this courteous manner of Zhu Gan, Han Chi and the others, who had wanted to help put in some good words for Xiao Yan earlier, immediately revealed a dull expression. Why had this usually haughty old fellow have a change of character today?

Han Yue and Han Xue laughed when they saw the dull expressions of everyone. The both of them were vaguely aware that Xiao Yan also possessed the status of an alchemist. It was likely that something which they were unaware of had occurred when Xiao Yan and Zhu Gan made contact earlier. It was due to that interaction that caused the usually haughty Zhu Gan to become like this.

While the two girls laughed, their hearts actually also felt some shock. Xiao Yan was able to completely dispel Zhu Gan's haughtiness. Clearly, Xiao Yan had revealed something that Zhu Gan had not expected. Moreover, if one wished to get a tier 5 alchemist to become this respectful, one would at the very least have to be a higher alchemist tier than the other party. In other words... Xiao Yan was likely a tier 5 or even a tier 6 alchemist!

The soft laughter of the two ladies also woke Han Chi and the others from their dull state. They exchanged looks with one another before glancing at Xiao Yan with a deeper meaning in their eyes. This young man seemed to possess an unfathomable aura.

"Xue-er, bring brother Xiao Yan along and find a room for him to rest. The matter of the medicinal ingredients should be able to be completed today. At that time, I will get someone to deliver them to Xiao Yan's room." Han Chi smiled as he handled the situation.

Han Xue nodded slightly. She turned her head and smiled sweetly to

Xiao Yan before speaking in a quiet voice, "Big brother Xiao Yan, please follow me." Without realizing it, the manner she used to address Xiao Yan had become a lot more familiar.

Xiao Yan did not reveal much of a reaction upon hearing this. He cupped his hands to Han Chi and the others before turning around and following Han Xue.

Han Chi's expression gradually became solemn as he watched the two backs which gradually disappeared from his sight. His eyes turned to Zhu Gan and asked, "Mister Zhu Gan, earlier...?"

Zhu Gan exhaled a breath. His gaze turned to Han Yue as he asked somewhat cautiously, "This mister Xiao Yan should also be an alchemist, right?"

Han Yue did not hide anything with regards to this. Her delicate hand pulled aside a thread of silver hair in front of her forehead before she covered her mouth and softly laughed, "Old Zhu, when I was still training in the Inner Academy, Xiao Yan was already able to refine a tier 5 medicinal pill..."

The entire hall emitted the sound of people inhaling cold air when these words sounded. The hands of Zhu Gan, who had already expected this, trembled while fondling his beard. He ended up pulling out a hair.

"Looks like Xue-er has really performed a great service this time around. She has really invited a great god..." Han Chi muttered. He immediately spoke in a deep voice, "Everyone listen up. Provide Xiao Yan with the best treatment. Do not slight him even a little. Any clan member who dares to offend him will be punished according to the clan rules!"

All the clan members hurriedly acknowledged the request when they heard Han Chi's stern cry.

A Dou Huang class young man might not be sufficient for the Han clan to act in this manner. However, if the status of an alchemist that surpassed Zhu Gan was added on top of it, even the Han clan must be friendly to him in every possible way!

The status of an alchemist was even more prominent in the Central Plains compared to any other region!

This was because the number of experts in this place was greater than other places. Hence, it required an even greater amount of medicinal pills than other places!

Chapter 959: The Location Where Yao Lao was Imprisoned

After Xiao Yan sent Han Xue out of a clean guest room in the backyard of the Han clan, he shut the door and sighed in relief. Honestly speaking, he really did not wish to get involved with the matter between the Han clan and the Hong clan were it not because of Han Xue and Han Yue. Of course, the reason he spoke was was naturally not referring to Han Xue and Han Yue personally. Although the both of them were excellent women, he was not a person whose mind was ruled by another part of his anatomy. Naturally, he never had those thoughts.

“After observing Hong Chen from a distance today, he does indeed have a great strength. He might be an arrogant person, but it is just as the others have said. This fellow does indeed possess the qualification and capital to be arrogant.” Xiao Yan came to the side of the bed before sitting crossed-legged on it. His face revealed an expression of being in deep thought.

The strength of this Han clan is definitely not like what one saw in the hall earlier. According to Xiao Yan’s expectations there were some experts from the older generation hiding behind the scene. After all, for the Han Yan to be able to fight against the Hong clan in Tian Bei City, it was impossible that they did not possess an elite Dou Zong. However, from what he saw today, other than Han Chi, who could be vaguely considered someone with half a foot into the Dou Zong class, no one else had reached this stage.

If this was the case for the Han clan, even less needed to be said about the Hong clan, which was a little stronger. Xiao Yan had already become enemies with such a faction after just arriving in the Central Plains. He could be considered unlucky.

After sighing quietly in his heart, Xiao Yan tossed aside these thoughts. He was not an indecisive person. Moreover, he was clear about his grudges and favors. If there was a favor, he would repay it. If there was a grudge,

he would also repay it. Han Xue had rescued him while he felt somewhat apologetic to Han Yue for stealing the treasure. Due to this, Xiao Yan would naturally not reject their requests given his character, even if this meant that the price was to offend that so-called Hong clan.

“By looking at Hong Chen today, it was likely that his strength is around that of a seven star Dou Huang. It is quite similar to me. It must be said that his training talent is indeed surprising.” Xiao Yan muttered to himself. Although his talent was extremely outstanding, it was something that he had trained all by himself. That Hong Chen, on the other hand, not only had the support of the entire clan, but was also groomed by the Wind Lightning Pavilion. It was considered normal for his achievement to not be any less than Xiao Yan’s. After all, there were many hidden experts in the Central Plains region. It was likely that he would meet even more of them in the future.

Although the achievements of this Hong Chen caused Xiao Yan to be surprised, it was only limited to this level. With Xiao Yan’s current fighting strength, it was likely that hardly any people from the same class could defeat him. There were more than ten experts at the peak of the Dou Huang class who had fallen to his hands. Even the names of elite Dou Zongs were left on his death list, much less a seven star Dou Huang...

“Once I settle this matter and return the favor, I will leave this place. If it is possible, I should try to breakthrough to the Dou Zong class before the start of the Pill Gathering. Although this will be extremely difficult, I can only think of a way to go all out in order to obtain the Three Thousand Burning Flames.” Xiao Yan’s face was somewhat solemn. The Pill Gathering was the top alchemist grand meeting in the entire Dou Qi continent. That size was incomparable to any other huge gathering. One could even say that the Pill Gathering was the most outstanding competition in the alchemist world on the Dou Qi continent...

Faced with this kind of top notch alchemist gathering, even Xiao Yan had to treat it seriously. Currently, he might have already become a tier 6 alchemist, but this was far from sufficient. It was likely going to be quite difficult if he wanted to rely on only this to enter the top ten...

The Three Thousand Burning Flame had sufficient allure to Xiao Yan. As long as he successfully swallowed it after breaking through to the Dou Zong class, he would at least possess the ability to fight a little even if he ended up meeting with the legendary elite Dou Zun. Hence, Xiao Yan must enter the top ten in order to get the qualification to do so!

Xiao Yan inhaled a deep breath of air. His hands also slightly tightened. He was looking forward to the largest gathering in the alchemist world. It was rumored that his teacher had stood at that place back then and ended up becoming Yao zun-zhe, who was renowned throughout the continent. Being Yao Lao's disciple, Xiao Yan naturally did not wish to embarrass his teacher's name at that place.

Xiao Yan suppressed the many thoughts within his heart. His finger suddenly rubbed that white-colored ring before frowning slightly. Ever since Tian Huo zun-zhe had absorbed the soul of the fierce spirit, he had been in a deep slumber. If this former Dou Zun were to wake up, it was likely that he would be a big help to Xiao Yan. Unfortunately, Xiao Yan did not dare use any external strength to wake him from his slumber...

Xiao Yan softly sighed. He seemed to have suddenly recalled something as he flipped his hand. A jade bottle with an invisible flame covering it appeared in his hand. One could faintly hear a miserable cry being transmitted from within the jade bottle.

The corner of Xiao Yan's mouth contained a coldness. His finger rubbed over the mouth of the bottle before he beckoned to it. An extremely weak spirit slowly rose wrapped in a cluster of invisible flames. Finally, it appeared in front of Xiao Yan.

At this moment, Han Feng was extremely weary after being burned by the Heart Flame for such a long period of time. Xiao Yan's Heart Flame could cause harm to a spirit. That kind of searing pain that spread out from deep within a spirit was really an unendurable torture to a spiritual body.

"Have you enjoyed enough?" Xiao Yan glanced at the illusionary figure of Han Feng in front of him before asking indifferently.

Han Feng's body immediately quivered intensely upon hearing Xiao Yan's voice. There was some additional fear in the vicious eyes he used to look at Xiao Yan. He was really suffering a fate worse than death under the grilling of the Heart Flame during this period of time.

"What exactly do you want to do? Just kill me already!" Han Feng's voice was so weak that he was nearly on his last breath.

"Tell me the location where the 'Hall of Souls' has locked up teacher." Xiao Yan spoke in a cold and indifferent voice.

"Tsk tsk, you wish to rescue that old fellow? Do you really think that the 'Hall of Souls' is a place that anyone can just enter?" Han Feng involuntarily laughed upon hearing his demand.

"Ah!"

The cold laughter had just sounded when Xiao Yan waved his hand with an expressionless face. The Fallen Heart Flame that lingered outside of Xiao Yan's body was suddenly moved. Finally, it adhered onto Han Feng's body. A 'chi chi' sound appeared along with a sharp cry and waves of white smoke.

"Looks like you have not enjoyed enough during this period of time. Since this is the case, I shall let you enjoy this for half a year." One could not hear any emotion in Xiao Yan's voice. He waved his hand and the Fallen Heart Flame carried Han Feng along as it once again entered the jade bottle.

"Don't, don't. I'll speak. I'll speak!"

Han Feng hurriedly endured the searing pain and screamed when he saw that Xiao Yan was planning to store him inside the jade bottle again.

Xiao Yan's hand paused. The Fallen Heart Flame slowly dissipated. He glanced at Han Feng and indifferently said, "You have one last chance. I have quite a lot of time. The next time I summon you might be half a year or one year later. Hopefully, you will not be incinerated into nothingness by the Heart Flame..."

The illusory body of Han Feng immediately trembled violently when

he heard these words. A terror flashed across his eyes. A moment later, he finally clenched his teeth and said, "Will you allow me to leave if I tell you the location where Yao Chen is being locked up?"

"You do not have the qualification to bargain with me." Xiao Yan's expression turned cold. The Fallen Heart Flame that covered the exterior of Xiao Yan's body was about to be maneuvered again.

"Stop, stop... I will tell you..." The horror in Han Feng's eyes became even denser when he saw this and he hurriedly said, "The 'Hall of Souls' has a branch hall that is located in a city name Ming City in the western region of the Central Plains. Yao Chen is locked up there."

"Western region of the Central Plains... Ming City..." Xiao Yan slowly repeated these two words in his mouth. An excitement quietly rose in his heart. However, he did not reveal the ripple in his heart when he continued. "How many people from the 'Hall of Souls' are guarding that branch hall?"

"It is rumored that there are a couple of Protectors. Moreover, there is also an Honorable Elder. That branch hall is a little more important, hence, the 'Hall of Souls' has dispatched a genuine expert to protect it..." Han Feng hesitated for a moment before speaking.

"Honorable Elder?" Xiao Yan's expression immediately changed a little when he heard this term. Currently, he was no longer completely ignorant of the 'Hall of Souls.' It was not the first time that he had heard of the term 'Honorable Elder.' This position was above that of an Elder. Moreover, each Honorable Elder's strength was that of a genuine elite Dou Zun.

"Could the large hall which I had reached with my Spiritual Perception through the fire seal back then be Ming City? Could that extremely frightening Spiritual Strength back then be something unleashed by the guarding Honorable Elder?" Xiao Yan's eyes flickered. The thoughts in his heart were churning like a tide.

"If this matter is true, it seems that I will need to plan properly. An elite Dou Zun... that is really a little too powerful for the current me. Even if I

use the strongest Extermination Fire Lotus, it is likely that I will not cause him much harm. After all, the difference between a Dou Zun and a Dou Zong is really vast...”

Xiao Yan gently exhaled when he thought until this point. His gaze coldly landed on Han Feng. He immediately waved his hand and the Fallen Heart Flame once again swept over the latter before entering the jade bottle. The flame quickly rose and agglomerated into a fire seal on the mouth of the bottle.

“Hopefully, what you have said is true. Otherwise, it will be difficult for you to die even if you wish to!”

A bone chilling voice was emitted from Xiao Yan’s mouth and transmitted into that jade bottle, causing Han Feng to violently quiver.

Xiao Yan slowly shut his eyes after throwing the jade bottle into his Storage Ring. The only thing he could do now was recover his strength. Only after he settled the matter in this place would he be able to roam the Central Plains and find a method for him to breakthrough to the Dou Zong class...

The room once again became quiet after Xiao Yan entered his training state. A gentle light flickered slightly and slowly expelled the darkness within...

Two days swiftly passed while Xiao Yan was recuperating within the training room. During these two days, the Han clan had also prepared all of the medicinal ingredients that Xiao Yan needed. After which, they instructed Han Xue to deliver them to Xiao Yan’s room.

Xiao Yan shut the door once again after having obtained the medicinal ingredients. Outsiders could only sense the heat that was seeping out of the room. However, due to the order that Han Chi had issued some time ago, no one dared to interrupt Xiao Yan. This allowed him to stay in an extremely quiet training environment.

The three day’s limit that the Hong clan had issued had arrived while this door was shut...

Chapter 960: Sky Stone Stage

Two tall figures were standing in a small yard outside of the room. A breeze blew past and their long hair fluttered, revealing a moving enchantment amid a cold stunningness, especially since both women's pretty face were somewhat similar. There was an additional unique style when one looked at them.

Han Xue stretched her lazy waist after standing for a moment and seeing that there was little activity. Her perfect curves appeared extremely alluring under her silver-colored dress. After which, she sat on a stone chair and placed her hands on the stone table. She held her cheeks, revealing a great allure while her eyes roamed around.

Compared to the quiet Han Yue, Han Xue was unable to sit still. After seeing that there was not the slightest activity within the room despite having waited for half a day, she involuntarily asked, "Why is he not out yet? Today is the third day. Father and the others are all preparing to head to the Sky Stone Stage."

"Why are you so anxious? Relax, given my understanding of him, he is not the type who has a problem being punctual. Since he has agreed to lend a hand, nothing unexpected will happen no matter what." Han Yue involuntarily covered her mouth and softly laughed when she saw her usually cold and indifferent sister acting in this manner.

Han Xue stopped her pacing footsteps when she heard this. She was only quiet for a short while before she suddenly asked again, "Sister, do you think that something could have happened to him? He had suffered an extremely serious injury when I picked him up in the desert back then. He didn't even possess the strength to get up."

Han Yue was startled. She raised her head slightly and her pretty face seriously looked at Han Xue's pretty face where a thread of enchantment was present amid its coldness. There seemed to be a hint of worry on it as well.

"Sister, what are you looking at?" Han Xue involuntarily spoke in an

annoyed manner upon being stared at by Han Yue.

“Xue-er, you... have you fallen for Xiao Yan?” Han Yue hesitated for a moment before suddenly asking.

A fiery redness immediately surged onto Han Xue’s pretty face when she heard this. She said in an embarrassed manner, “Sis, what nonsense are you spouting. I have only been acquainted with him for a short while.”

“I am only trying to remind you that Xiao Yan is indeed very outstanding. However, it is very difficult for the heart of such an outstanding man to be retained by someone. Moreover, he also has a girl that he likes...” Han Yue spoke in a serious tone.

Han Xue lowered her eyes slightly. She turned her head and softly said, “It’s not what you think...” She was quiet for a moment after her words sounded before she suddenly asked, “Is that girl very outstanding?”

Han Yue’s delicate hand parted a thread of bright silver hair in front of her forehead. A look of recollection flashed across her pretty eyes. A moment later, she bitterly smiled and said, “She’s more than just outstanding... if one were to really talk about it, it is likely that she is the person who hid the deepest among the students of our batch. I once told you about Lin Xiu Ya. He is an existence on the top three of the Strong Ranking. However, he did not even last ten exchanges in her hands. Moreover, she is a little younger than Xiao Yan. This kind of training talent is really demon-like...”

Han Xue bit her lower red lip with the back of her teeth when she heard Han Yue’s soft sigh. A sentimental and dim feeling flashed through her pretty eyes without anyone discovering it. However, these feelings were swiftly hidden by her. She pounced onto Han Yue with a lovely smile and asked, “Don’t tell me that she is even more outstanding than this haughty elder sister?”

“Ha ha, your elder sister also cannot be compared with her. Otherwise, I would have snatched him away in the Inner Academy back then.” Han Yue smiled sweetly and replied.

“Creak...”

The tightly shut door was suddenly opened after Han Yue's words sounded. Immediately, a young man in linen clothes slowly walked out. He was startled when he saw the two ladies fooling around in the yard.

The sudden appearance of Xiao Yan also stunned Han Yue and Han Xue. A bright redness swiftly appeared on their pretty faces. They hurriedly ceased fooling around, arranged their clothes, and finally recovered their reserved manner.

"Ke ke, is it time?" Xiao Yan turned his hand and shut the door before he asked with a smile.

"Aye." Han Xue nodded. Her pretty eyes wandered once around Xiao Yan as she asked with some worry, "How are your injuries?"

"I'm almost completely well." Xiao Yan smiled as he replied. After which, he waved his hand and walked out of the yard. "Let's go. Don't let uncle Han and the others wait too long."

Seeing Xiao Yan completely familiar with the route and looking as though he was in his own home, both Han Yue and Han Xue involuntarily muttered to themselves. After which, they ran a little and swiftly followed.

The Sky Stone Stage sat in the middle of Tian Bei City. Its size was around a thousand feet or so. If one were to carefully look at it, one would discover that this Sky Stone Stage was completely built on an enormous rock. This enormous rock had existed since the Tian Bei City first built the stage. It allowed time to corrode it, but hardly any trace of this corrosion remained. This place was also the place where the most attention in the Tian Bei City was being placed. This was because every time some faction had a conflict, but did not wish to engage in a war, they would choose to have a match on it...

The Sky Stone Stage today was undoubtedly the most heated it had been during these two years because the ones who were going to have a showdown on the stage were the two main factions in the Tian Bei City, the Hong and Han clan.

Moreover, according to the rumors, the one who was fighting for the Hong clan was Hong Chen, who had been accepted as a disciple to the

Wind Lightning Pavilion. The citizens of the Tian Bei city were quite familiar with this name. This person had always been arrogant. However, he had displayed a shocking talent since he was young. After growing up, he caught the eye of the Wind Lightning Pavilion. It could be said that Hong Chen had lived these years in glory. The aura of a genius had never disappeared from him. If one were to talk about it, if Xiao Yan did not experience that occurrence when he was young, it was likely that his training path would be similar to Hong Chen's path. In the future, Xiao Yan might have even caught the eye of the largest sect in the Jia Ma Empire, the Misty Cloud Sect, because of his outstanding training talent, and would have ended up becoming one of its members...

However, the appearance of Yao Lao had changed his route. It was such a route that it allowed Xiao Yan to walk until today, reaching such a high level.

The surroundings of the Sky Stone Stage were densely packed seats that had been carved from that enormous rock. At this moment, these seats were flooded with numerous black masses of human heads. This time around, the exchange between the Hong and Han clan had attracted the eyes of the entire Tian Bei City.

There were some somewhat exceptionally elegant seats located at the two highest points in the western and northern parts of the Sky Stone Stage. Only the leaders of some factions within the Tian Bei City had the qualification to sit in them. These spots enabled them to look down from above and absorb the entire arena in their eyes. At this moment, these northern seats already had quite a number of human figures seated in them. Most of the people were wearing red robes. Their chests had badges on them that represented the Hong clan...

In one of the Hong clan's seats was Hong Chen, whom Xiao Yan had seen back then. He was folding his hands over his chest and leaning against the rock chair. His face was heated as he looked at the exit of the arena. That pretty figure, which had lingered in his dreams, had always been imprinted in his heart. In his heart, he had already believed that this woman would definitely belong to him!

Only he was able to match with such an outstanding woman!

Following the flow of time, the number of people on the Sky Stone Stage also increased. The boiling noise surged to the clouds, forming a large sound wave that spread out in a ripple-like manner, causing everyone in Tian Bei City to hear the noise of this place.

When the dense seats on the Sky Stone Platform were gradually filling up, a large group of human figures finally appeared at the entrance of the arena. Their appearance immediately stirred a commotion within the arena.

“It’s the people from the Han clan. They are finally here.”

“It is rumored that Hong Chen had said that as long as the Han clan was able to find someone of the same generation to defeat him, the Hong clan will not be enemies with the Han clan for the next ten years.”

“Hei, these words may sound nice, but there is really no one in the younger generation within this Tian Bei City who can beat this unlikable fellow. It would be difficult even for Han Yue from the Han clan...”

“If the Han clan were to lose this time around, they would have to lose an angel-like daughter...”

The people from the Han clan slowly climbed the stone stage amid a countless number of private conversations. After which, they paused on the part of the rock stage that was opposite the Hong clan.

“Ke ke, head of the Han clan, you are finally here. I thought that you would not turn up today.” A large middle-aged man in the leader’s seat of the Hong clan, who was of similar age to Han Chi, stood up and laughed loudly upon seeing the appearance of the group from the Han clan.

“Hong clan’s head has thought too much. Since the Hong clan is willing to maintain ten years of peace with our Han clan, we will naturally have to receive it. Otherwise, we would be letting down the good intentions of the Hong clan.” Han Chi raised his eyes and spoke indifferently.

“That is the clan head of the Hong clan, Hong Li.” A soft voice that carried a serene fragrance was transmitted into Xiao Yan’s ear. He turned

to take a look and found that it was Han Xue.

“I’m afraid that before you have received my good intentions, you will have lost your daughter. Ha ha, but you need not worry, I will be extremely tolerant to the daughter-in-law of my Hong clan.” Hong Li coldly laughed.

“Alright, let’s not waste our breath. I don’t have much time and will need to return to the northern pavilion to train during these two days.”

Hong Chen frowned and stood up. His body shook and a faint thunderous roar sounded. His body appeared on the spacious stone stage below in a ghost-like manner. His gaze was arrogant as he looked at the Han clan’s seats and cried, “There is no need to be so long-winded. We will talk after we have fought. Who is coming to face me?”

The gazes of the entire place instantly turned to the spot where the seats of the Han clan were located upon hearing Hong Chen’s cry. Finally, they remained on Han Yue. It seemed that she was the only one among the younger generation of the Han clan who had entered the Dou Huang class.

Han Yue merely smiled sweetly while being under the focus of all the eyes present. She immediately shook her head slightly and her delicate finger pointed to a spot beside her. Her clear moving voice reverberated over the entire arena.

“His opponent is not me. It’s him!”

A countless number of gazes suddenly shifted. Finally, they paused on an unfamiliar young man in the Han clan’s seats who was wearing an ordinary linen clothes. Everyone was instantly stunned...

Hong Chen’s eyes were somewhat dark and cold as they were thrown at Xiao Yan. The arrogance and belittlement in his eyes was not even slightly hidden.

“Even if you wanted to find someone to die for you, you should have found a decent one, no?”

Xiao Yan merely smiled when he heard the cold laughter and disdain that was transmitted from Hong Chen’s mouth. His smile contained a faint chillness.

Chapter 961: Fight

“The Han clan should have a reason behind their actions. After all, this match concerns the rest of Han Yue’s life...”

Private conversations around the arena suddenly sounded the moment Xiao Yan appeared. Numerous shocked gazes repeatedly swept over his body.

Hong Li’s brows were knitted slightly as he looked at the unfamiliar Xiao Yan from the seats of the Hong clan. With his understanding of the Han clan, the other party would definitely not randomly find someone to die for them in this kind of situation. However, if this was not the case, could this young man really contend with Hong Chen?

There was an old man wearing gray-colored robes beside Hong Li. The old man had his eyes shut, seemingly ignoring the noise of the outside world. His hands were hidden under his sleeves while his body leaned against the backrest of the chair. There was a green-silver-colored badge on his chest. A tower with a faint lightning glow lingering over it was drawn on the badge.

The old man opened his shut eyes upon hearing Hong Li’s words. He glanced at Xiao Yan before using a hoarse voice to faintly speak, “This little fellow is also very strong. I wonder where the Han clan found such a helper.”

“Oh? Will Hong Chen be able to defeat him?” Hong Li became a little stern upon hearing this. By being able to get this old fellow to evaluate him like this, it seemed that this young man with an ordinary appearance was really not a scapegoat that the Han clan had sent out.

“Most of the high class Dou Techniques of my Wind Lightning Pavilion has been learned by Hong Cheng. Moreover, the Qi Method which he practices is also a top Qi Method of my Wind Lightning Pavilion. Forget about those of similar levels. His fighting strength could fight with even experts at the peak of the Dou Huang class. There are indeed people of the same generation who could defeat him in the Central Plains. However,

such a person has not appeared in Tian Bei City.” The old man once again slowly shut his eyes upon saying these words.

Hong Li’s heart sighed in relief after hearing the gray-robed, old man speak in this manner. His face revealed a cold smile. He wanted to see just how ugly the expression on Han Chi’s face would be after being defeated.

Hong Che’s eyes lazily swept over Xiao Yan on the enormous stone arena. He said, “Tell me your name.”

Xiao Yan smiled. He ignored this fellow’s arrogant words and softly laughed, “A nameless individual, Xiao Yan, who cannot be compared with the great reputation of young master Hong Chen.”

“Don’t pay lip service to this father of yours. I will give you ten breath’s time to decide if you wish to get lost by yourself or for me to turn you into a cripple and toss you away.” Hong Chen’s face turned cold as he cried out.

“There is no need for ten breaths. Let’s just fight...” Xiao Yan shook his head. His face was completely harmless. This Hong Chen was indeed as arrogant as the people around had described.

Hong Chen’s eyes turned gloomy. He stared at Xiao Yan sinisterly and said, “Since you wish to seek death, do not blame this young master for not showing mercy.” Numerous lightning glows suddenly surged from Hong Chen’s body the moment his voice sounded. Finally, they transformed into a layer of lightning glow that wrapped around his entire body.

“Lightning Dou Qi huh...” Xiao Yan looked at the deep-silver-colored Dou Qi that covered Hong Chen. Countless numbers of silver snakes of lightning leaped in all directions. Clearly, this fellow practiced a lightning affinity Qi Method that was known for its powerful offensive strength.

“Remember my name, Hong Chen. Being defeated by my hands will be your honor!” Hong Chen gave a sneer and suddenly stomped down. A lightning bolt the size of an arm shot towards Xiao Yan from the ground, moving like a snake.

Xiao Yan raised his head slightly as he looked at the lightning glow that

extended over in a snake-like manner. He raised his eyes slightly and his foot gently stepped forward. A flame-like jade-green Dou Qi also shot out before colliding with the lightning glow. A sudden muffled sound appeared and the enormous rock where the collision occurred ended up with half-a-foot large hole.

“Just attack. Young master Hong Chen, do not take little tricks out...” Xiao Yan laughed faintly as he spoke.

“Hei, you are actually even more arrogant than this young master. In that case, we will see if you have the qualification to allow me to use all my strength!” Hong Chen’s eyes turned cold. A bright, silver glow suddenly erupted and his body appeared in front of Xiao Yan in the blink of an eye in ghost-like manner. A fist with bright lightning light carried a ‘chi chi’ wind sound as it violently smashed toward Xiao Yan’s head.

The wild and violent lightning strength that came toward Xiao Yan caused his eyelids to raise. His feet randomly shifted left and the fist that was covered in a lightning glow narrowly flew past his ear.

Hong Chen merely smiled coldly when Xiao Yan dodged his attack. His fist was suddenly spread out and his five fingers were curled into a strange claw-shape. They violently tore toward Xiao Yan’s shoulder.

The hand-claw was suddenly waved down before it stilled. One could see that two of Xiao Yan’s fingers covered in a dense Dou Qi were piercing the palm of the hand-claw like a dagger, completely stopping the force on it.

“You have some skill.” Surprised also surfaced on Hong Chen’s face when his attack was stopped. Suddenly he cried out coldly, “Try the Wind Lightning Pavilion’s Wind Lightning Claw!”

The cry had just sounded when a lightning glow surged on his hand-claw. A couple of lightning glows bent in a strange manner before agglomerating into an extremely sharp lightning claw above his finger. Hong Chen cried out furiously when the hand claw was formed. The energy on the hand claw soared and it forced Xiao Yan’s fingers back. The hand claw carried an extremely sharp lightning strength as it furiously hacked down!

This hacking tore the air apart. A blurry silver-colored hand-claw afterimage appeared in the sky.

Xiao Yan also felt somewhat surprised in his heart upon sensing the sharpness of the wind claw. His fingers changed swiftly before he suddenly clenched his hand. Immediately, jade-green Dou Qi carrying a thread of flame appeared and violently collided with Hong Chen.

“Bang!”

Hong Chen’s body was a little dull when this deep sound appeared. He swiftly recovered and a fierceness flashed across his eyes. The two claws suddenly danced and numerous after images appeared in a dazzling manner. The sharp wind from the claws swiftly covered Xiao Yan’s entire body. A whistling sound appeared and repeatedly reverberated over the arena.

Xiao Yan’s expression remained impassive in the face of this wild and violent attack by Hong Chen. His hand was curled and immediately formed a defense in front of his body. With the help of his Spiritual Perception, the genuine attacks of Hong Chen did not escape Xiao Yan’s detection regardless of how fast the attacking speed was. Hence, each time a claw wind, that contained a killing intent, headed over, it would be violently sent back by Xiao Yan with a punch.

Both parties claws and fists repeatedly formed numerous afterimages in front of them. This caused the countless number of people watching the stage to exclaim out loud. No one expected that Xiao Yan would be able to remain undefeated after having so many exchanges with Hong Chen.

“Wind Lightning Kill!”

A serious expression finally surfaced in Hong Chen’s eyes after his attacks were blocked many times. The underestimation in his heart was also lessened a little. His claw immediately changed as he let out a furious cry. A faint lightning roar suddenly sounded.

The many hand-claw afterimages suddenly stilled at this moment before swiftly shrinking back. Within a short period of time, a hand claw covered by a dense lightning claw strangely appeared along with a faint thunder

roar. It carried a lightning-like momentum as it violently grabbed at Xiao Yan's heart. From the look of this momentum, it was likely that Xiao Yan's heart would be dug out if he was struck.

Xiao Yan exhaled gently before taking a step back. A stern coldness suddenly surged into his dark-black eyes. An incomparably powerful Dou Qi surged out like floodwaters from within his body in all directions. At this moment, Xiao Yan had completely displayed his seven star Dou Huang strength.

The expressions of the countless of people present changed upon sensing the powerful Dou Qi, that suddenly surged out of Xiao Yan's body. An exclamation resounded like a wave.

"Dou Huang?"

"This person's strength is likely even stronger than Han Yue from the Han clan right? No wonder..."

Xiao Yan's clenched his fist tightly as the Dou Qi surged. It paused for a moment before it was instantly thrown out.

"Octane Blast!"

The strength of the fist suddenly soared by a couple of times while it was still traveling. An ear-piercing sonic boom resounded around the fist. The fist violently collided with Hong Chen's lightning claw amid many shocked eyes.

"Bang!"

A low, deep collision sound abruptly appeared. Powerful air ripples surged out from the point of contact. Numerous spider-web-like cracks also spread on the enormous large rocks around.

A human figure suddenly shot past while the crack lines spread. His feet rubbed against the ground and formed an obvious scar that was over a dozen meters long. Everyone's eyes hurriedly looked over and they involuntarily inhaled a breath of cool air. The person who was forced back was actually Hong Chen?

A countless number of gazes slide away after lingering on Hong Chen for a moment. All of them paused on the young man who had merely taken two steps back. The shock within their eyes grew even denser. This person had actually gain the upper hand in a head-on collision with Hong Chen? Just what great being was this fellow?

Xiao Yan waved his sleeves gently and his finger pressed on his arm in a lightning-like manner. The finger was flicked and a wild and violent lightning strength was tossed out of his body.

“You actually think that this little lightning hidden force would be able to harm me?”

Hong Chen, who had stabilized his body, currently possessed an unusually sinister face. He looked at Xiao Yan in a gloomy manner and said, “Unexpectedly you are also a seven star Dou Huang. You have hidden quite deeply. No wonder the Han clan has looked for you. You do possess the qualification to be my opponent, but the strength that you have displayed is far from sufficient if you wish to beat me!”

A low, deep roar was suddenly emitted from Hong Chen’s throat when his voice sounded. Immediately, a crackling sound appeared from within his body. Countless silver-snake-like lightning bolts extended from his bones, wrapping him within a layer of lightning. Being within a lightning web, Hong Chen’s aura also swiftly soared.

“Seeing that you are able to force back this young master, I shall let you take a look at the secret technique of the Wind Lightning Pavilion today!”

“Lightning God Descend!”

Hong Chen’s feet suddenly stomped down and countless numbers of silver snakes surged out from under his feet. Within a short instant, it permeated the area within a radius of hundreds of feet. Hong Chen, who was within it, appeared like a lightning god. His aura was terrifying!

The expressions of everyone in the Han clan changed when they saw that Hong Chen had actually used the Lightning God Descend. Han Xue and Han Yue also exchanged looks. They were able to see a little worry from the other party’s eyes. However, when their gazes looked to Xiao Yan,

they merely saw him with his usual calmness. His emotions did not sway even a little because of Hong Chen's transformation...

Chapter 962: Lightning God Descent

Hong Chen's entire body was covered in a layer of lightning web. Silver snakes shot in all directions. Perhaps it was because of the Secret Technique, but his body had also become much stronger. Looking from a distance, he appeared like a silver-colored metal pagoda that was filled with a threatening aura.

His aura soared. After continuing for a moment, it finally came to a slow stop. Hong Chen's gaze stared intently at Xiao Yan as he let out a cold laugh. His hand was clenched and a dark-black metal hammer appeared. A lightning glow lingered over the metal hammer.

This metal hammer was a treasure of the Wind Lightning Pavilion. It was named the Mighty Lightning Hammer. Its body had been created using lightning stones. If a person who practiced a lightning Qi Method used it, that person's Dou Qi would experience a strengthening effect. Adding that the lightning stone were naturally heavy, it was filled with strength when one swung it. An ordinary expert would not dare to receive it head-on.

A stern expression flashed through Hong Chen's eyes as he held the Mighty Lightning Hammer. He randomly swung it a couple of times and it was accompanied by an ear-piercing sonic boom. The sonic boom was transmitted to the ground and a couple of holes formed in the hard arena.

"Again!"

Hong Chen sensed the strength surging within his body before staring at Xiao Yan with dense, cold eyes. He eventually cried out in a cold voice.

Xiao Yan frowned slightly upon looking at the completely armed Hong Chen. After using a Secret Technique, his strength had almost reached that of a nine star Dou Huang. Looking at this, the effects of this Secret Technique were indeed quite good. Moreover, from their earlier collision, Xiao Yan was able to sense that the Qi Method Hong Chen practiced was definitely a Di class Qi Method. Otherwise, he would not have just taken over a dozen steps back after receiving his 'Octane Blast' head-on.

This person possessed a top quality Qi Method, Dou Technique and weapon. His fighting strength was naturally shocking. Given this person's strength it should not be difficult for him to challenge someone above his level. Forget about someone from the same level, it was likely that he could even fight with an expert at the peak of the Dou Huang class. No wonder he dared to be this arrogant.

If it was someone else from the same generation who met Hong Chen today, it was likely that this person would have difficulty fighting with Hong Chen unless that person possessed some special trump card. Unfortunately, Xiao Yan was not included in these people from the same generation...

Challenging someone above one's level might be difficult matter to some people. However, it was an extremely common thing for Xiao Yan, who had once turned that Old Ground Demon Ghost, possessing an unfathomable strength, into a crippled state. Hong Chen might be able to fight across levels, but he was not able to fight across classes!

Fighting across levels and fighting across classes might only possess a one word difference, but they were two completely different concepts. They were also completely two different realms of strength.

The gazes all over the place gathered on this battle that was gradually entering its main event. The sudden increase in Han Chen's strength caused quite a number of people to quietly click their tongues. This Wind Lightning Pavilion was indeed worthy of being a faction that could be ranked in the Central Plains. A Secret Technique was actually able to allow one to raise one's strength this greatly.

While they quietly praised, some gazes were also turned to Xiao Yan. After that scene earlier, there was no longer anyone who dared to underestimate this unfamiliar, young man. By being able to force Han Chen until the point where he had to use a Secret Technique, this fellow was clearly not an ordinary person. It seemed that the victor of this fight between the Hong clan and the Han clan today was really one that was difficult to predict...

“Just what is the background of this little fellow? By being able to reach such a level at such a young age, he should not be some unknown person. Why is it that the name Xiao Yan had never been heard within the northern region of the Central Plains nor within the entire Central Plains?” Hong Li looked at Hong Chen who had used the Lightning God Descend from the seats of the Hong clan and involuntarily spoke with a slight frown.

The gray-clothed old man by the side shook his head slightly. He similarly felt that the name Xiao Yan was extremely unfamiliar.

“The Central Plains is incomparably vast with many hidden experts. It is normal not knowing them. There is no need to worry. Since Hong Chen had used the Lightning God Descend, the victor is more or less decided. After all, with his current condition, his lightning affinity Qi Method and the Mighty Lightning Hammer, even an expert at the peak of the Dou Huang class would find it difficult to defeat him...” The gray-clothed, old man mused before speaking his thoughts in a faint manner.

Hong Li nodded upon hearing this. This little fellow was indeed amazing for being able to force Hong Chen to use the Secret Technique. However, that was all...

.....

Xiao Yan smiled in front of the countless number of gazes. He slowly clenched his hand and an enormous Heavy Xuan Ruler appeared. The heavy ruler was inserted into the ground and its wide body appeared just like a dark-black shield. Its heavy feeling was something that even Hong Chen’s Mighty Lightning Hammer could not compare with.

Surprise flashed across Hong Chen’s eyes when he saw Xiao Yan draw a heavy ruler as a weapon. The cold smile on the corner of his mouth grew even denser. After having displayed the Lightning God Descend, his strength had been strengthened quite greatly. If his opponent was the agile type, he would still be faced with some trouble. However, if his opponent also used a heavy type weapon, that person would not possess the ability to retaliate in the face of the dancing Mighty Lightning

Hammer!

“Brat, I shall let you see the Wind Lightning Pavilion Wind Lightning Hammer Skill. You should take a detour when you see the members of the Wind Lightning Pavilion in the future!”

Hong Chen parted his mouth while facing Xiao Yan, revealing his dense teeth. His feet abruptly stomped on the ground and the sound of a thunderous roar rang out. Immediately, his body shook.

Xiao Yan's eyes narrowed slightly the moment that Hong Chen's body moved. He was only too familiar with this scene...

The corner of Xiao Yan's mouth was lifted into an arc. His hand grabbed the heavy ruler tightly and violently swung it to his back without turning his head around.

The heavy ruler carried a powerful pressurizing wind while the sound of a sonic boom repeatedly resounded around the ruler. When the ruler had just reached Xiao Yan's back, an enormous, dark-black hammer suddenly appeared before being blocked by the ruler.

“Clang!”

The heavy ruler collided with the enormous hammer and a metallic sound resounded over the entire arena. Both Xiao Yan and Hong Chen swiftly pulled away and formed a safe distance between them in a lightning-like manner.

“Good brat, you are actually able to see through the afterimages of my Three Thousand Lightning Movement...” Hong Chen stabilized his body and glanced at the disappearing afterimage in the distance. His heart was involuntarily a little surprised. When Xiao Yan waved his heavy ruler earlier, it seemed that Xiao Yan had a great understanding of Hong Chen's position. The ruler did not hesitate when it was swung, forcing Hong Chen to reveal himself.

“Looks like I need to finish this fellow off quickly. There is a time limit to the Lightning God Descend. At that time, my body will enter a weary period...” A thought flashed across Hong Chen's heart while some killing

intent flashed across his eyes. His body moved and a thunderous sound once again appeared. His body transformed into a lightning bolt that crossed the dozens of meters distance in a lightning-like manner. With a leap, his body appeared above Xiao Yan's head.

"Thousand Shattering Lightning Hammer!"

Chi! Chi!

A glaring lightning glow repeatedly erupted from the Mighty Lightning Hammer. Looking from a distance, that Hong Chen appeared to have lifted an enormous lightning high in the sky. Its aura was shocking.

The enormous lightning paused for an instant before it was like a thunderbolt that descended from the clouds, violently striking toward Xiao Yan's head. That instantaneous powerful glow had basically overshadowed the sun in the sky.

"Six Joint Body Flowing Ruler!"

Xiao Yan's eyes solidified slightly as he sensed the frightening lightning that shot down explosively from all directions. The heavy ruler in his hand danced in a lightning-like manner as numerous ruler's images followed a profound path and swiftly transformed into ruler shadows, which wind could not even penetrate. Some jade-green flames quietly rose in the defense of the ruler's shadow.

"Bang!"

The ruler's shadow defense had just been formed when the enormous lightning hammer came smashing down. After which, it violently crushed the ruler's shadow. Immediately, countless number of ruler's shadow scattered. However, the ruler's shadow had just disappeared when a densely packed unending amount of ruler's shadows swiftly replaced them. Following the repeated appearance of this ruler's shadow, the enormous lightning hammer also became a little illusionary. The great amount of lightning strength on it was swiftly being dispelled.

"Thousand Shattering Lightning Hammer, shatter!"

Hong Chen's expression sank a little as he sensed the great defensive

strength of Xiao Yan's ruler's shadows. He immediately let out a furious cry and the lightning hammer in his hand shot out. His body swiftly pulled back.

“Boom!”

The lightning hammer exploded almost instantaneously the moment it left Hong Chen's hand. Innumerable amounts of lightning strength smashed into the ruler's shadow defense from all directions. The ruler's shadow defense swiftly became thinner under this extremely closely packed attack. It was no longer able to replenish itself in time.

“Ha ha, I will see just how you will dispel the special Wind Lightning Strength of my Wind Lightning Pavilion!”

Hong Chen's body turned around and landed on the ground. After which, he looked at Xiao Yan, who was surrounded by the silver-colored Wind Lightning Strength, before laughing out loud.

“Humph, just what is there to be arrogant about, a mere Wind Lightning Strength?”

A cold laugh was transmitted from the lightning web just after Hong Chen's laughter sounded. Immediately, a jade-green flame erupted in a sudden manner. Under this flame, that Wind Lightning Strength seemed to have met its nemesis as it was swiftly vaporized by the high temperature into nothingness. After an instant, the lightning web that contained a wild and violent strength completely scattered in front of many stunned gazes...

“This is... a ‘Heavenly Flame’?”

While the flame was surging, the gray-clothed, old man on the Hong clan's seat suddenly opened his eyes and exclaimed.

A human figure which was completely wrapped in a jade-green flame slowly walked forward in the arena below in front of a countless number of gazes. One could even vaguely see that skinny figure within it.

“Are these your tactics? I really overestimated you.” The flame churned repeatedly on Xiao Yan's body as a faint voice was slowly emitted.

Hong Chen's expression immediately turned ugly upon hearing this. He tightened his grip on the Mighty Lightning Hammer in his hand. Finally, he understood just how troublesome his opponent was this time around. He could not even imagine that he had failed to defeat his opponent after displaying the Lightning God Descend...

"If you only have these tactics, it will be my turn next..."

A cold smile was lifted on the corner of Xiao Yan's mouth as he stood within the flame. His seal suddenly changed as a low cry resounded in his heart.

"Skyfire Three Mysterious Change: Glazed Change!"

When that cry sounded, the flame that covered the surface of Xiao Yan's body immediately began to writhe intensely. Finally, it completely shrank into his body. At the same time, his aura also began to swiftly rise like Hong Chen's from earlier. Within a short instance, it surpass his aura. A stunned expression swiftly climbed onto the faces of everyone present almost instantaneously...

A startled look flashed across the eyes of that gray-clothed, old man in the seats of the Hong clan. He muttered, "Just where did this little fellow come from. He actually hides so deep. This time around, it is likely that things will be a little disadvantageous for Hong Chen..."

Chapter 963: Exterminating Lightning Hammer

Only when the last jade-green flame shrink into Xiao Yan's body did the soaring aura finally come to a slow stop...

Not even the slightest Dou Qi seeped from the surface of Xiao Yan's body. However, an invisible pressure swiftly spread out with Xiao Yan in the middle. This pressurizing feeling was far stronger than Hong Chen's after he had used the Lightning God Descend. If Hong Chen was currently at the level of a nine star Dou Huang, Xiao Yan should truly be at the peak of the Dou Huang class. He was merely just one step away from the Dou Zong class!

"What a powerful Secret Technique... this increase in strength is something that even the Lightning God Descent of the Wind Lightning Pavilion could not be compared with. Ke ke, looks like Xue-er has really invited quite an incredible being..." Han Chi looked at Xiao Yan, whose aura was vaguely similar to his, from the Han clan's seats. Surprise involuntarily surfaced on his face as he smiled and spoke to himself.

"When he was in the Inner Academy back then, he had dared to intervene in a battle between Dou Haungs when he was still an ordinary Da Dou Shi. Now that a couple of years have passed, his achievements would naturally be even more terrifying. Although Hong Chen is a genius, he is inferior in front of Xiao Yan." Han Yue smiled sweetly as she explained. She also rejoiced upon seeing Xiao Yan getting the upper hand. After all, this was related to her marriage. It would be a lie if she said she was not nervous.

Han Xue by the side also softly laughed when she heard what Han Chi had said. Her pretty eyes stared at the linen-clothed, young man in the arena. Those clothes that were usually extremely ordinary looking gave her a feeling of a special yet ordinary vigor when they were worn by him. It was just like a peerless sword that was hidden within an ordinary scabbard, emitting a sharp sword aura that cause one to be afraid...

The young man currently in the arena was undoubtedly the most dazzling existence on the Sky Stone Stage...

.....

Xiao Yan let in a long breath as he sensed the surging strength within his body. Borrowing the effects of the Secret Technique, he had already reached the peak of the Dou Huang class. During this instant, he seemed to have vaguely sensed a non-existent film layer. This film layer did not appear to exist. However, regardless of how the strength in his body climbed, he ultimately had difficulty touching it. There was no need to even discuss breaking through it...

"This... could this be the barrier to breakthrough to the Dou Zong class..." Xiao Yan thought deeply while he muttered to himself in a soft voice. After the brief experiment, he was vaguely aware that the Dou Qi needed to breakthrough to the Dou Zong class would definitely be an extremely frightening amount. Even though he was currently at the peak of the Dou Huang class, there was still an extremely great distance to that stage.

This small step was something that many experts were unable to leap past during their lives. One could imagine the difficulty involved.

"If I am in possession of the last two changes of the Skyfire Mysterious Change at this moment and use them in collaboration with the 'Heavenly Flame,' would I be able to breakthrough that barrier?" Xiao Yan's eyes flickered while his heart felt a little boiling hot. This method might really be of some use. If he had the time in the future, he might be able to give it a try.

Xiao Yan's swiftly pulled his mind back to reality as this thought flashed through his heart. He slowly raised his head and smiled at the solemn-faced Hong Chen on the opposite side. His hand immediately held his heavy ruler tightly as his foot stepped forward.

With a step, he had nearly flashed over hundreds of feet.

Hong Chen's expression also changed slightly the instant Xiao Yan stepped forward. Silver-colored lightning hurriedly surfaced under his feet.

Immediately, his body shook...

“Chi!”

A dark-black heavy ruler suddenly appeared above Hong Chen’s head. It ruthlessly smashed against his head. However, no blood was seen splattering. Instead, the ruler passed through the figure.

“Three Thousand Lightning Movement huh?”

Xiao Yan laughed coldly in his heart after his body reappeared. His feet suddenly shifted by over a dozen step in a strange manner. The heavy ruler was just like a long lance that pierced straight toward a certain space in front.

“Clang!”

A dark-black metal hammer hurriedly appeared from the empty space when the heavy ruler was pierced out. The hammer collided heavily with the ruler. Immediately, one could see a figure appearing. Hong Chen’s feet stomped on the ground as he hurriedly pulled back by over ten steps. Only then did he stabilize his body.

“Why does the Three Thousand Lightning Movement not have any effect on him?” Shock flashed across Hong Chen’s face after his position was once again easily identified by Xiao Yan. His hand, which was holding the Mighty Lightning Ruler, trembled slightly. That fierce attack by Xiao Yan earlier had nearly turned his entire arm numb. After having used the Skyfire Three Mysterious Change, Xiao Yan’s strength had clearly become even stronger than Hong Chen’s.

The cold smile on the corner of Xiao Yan’s mouth widened after forcing Hong Chen back with a swing of his ruler. He took repeated steps, each of them ten meters in distance. In the blink of an eye, he once again caught up with Hong Chen. His arm trembled and numerous ruler shadows repeatedly appeared. Finally, they appeared to have transformed into enormous great waves that came one after another as they violently smashed onto Hong Chen.

Faced with this sudden wild, violent attack by Xiao Yan, Hong Chen had

become miserable-looking. The Mighty Lightning Hammer in his hand danced repeatedly as it carried a faint wind lightning sound and viciously swung toward the ruler's shadows that covered Xiao Yan.

Clang! Qiang! Clang!

Two human figures flashed repeatedly on the arena. The speed of the two was extremely great. An ordinary person was only able to hear the repeated sounds of weapons clashing and the sparks that erupted from them. Only those people with sharp eyes were able to find the bodies of the two people.

At this moment, the situation in the arena was one where Hong Chen had gradually fallen into a disadvantage after Xiao Yan had used the Skyfire Three Mysterious Change. His Dou Qi was not as powerful as Xiao Yan's. When comparing agility, Xiao Yan was able to rely on his Spiritual Perception to identify the position of Hong Chen at any time. If it was in terms of physical strength, Xiao Yan's body was far stronger than Hong Chen after having been refined by many natural treasures and the 'Heavenly Flames.' How could Hong Chen fight with Xiao Yan in this situation were he was always at a disadvantage?

Any sharp-eyed people could tell that the chances of Hong Chen winning in this kind of situation were already beginning to sharply decline.

The people from the Han and Hong clan were naturally among those who could sense such a situation. The Han clan members were revealing a dense smile while the Hong clan members were becoming gloomy. They had full confidence in Hong Chen. This confidence originated from his performance over the years and ability. However, they had never imagined that the Han clan would find an expert who could really contend with Hong Chen or was even stronger than him...

This had caught them by surprise.

"Qiang!"

The heavy ruler and the metal hammer once again violently collided. Xiao Yan's eyes turned slightly cold. His arm was like a snake as it was

twisted in a strange fashion before suddenly appearing in front of Hong Chen. Xiao Yan's palm smashed down and struck Hong Chen's chest in a lightning-like manner.

“Grug!”

A powerful force immediately swept over Hong Lie's body like floodwater as the palm fell. His face turned white and a mouthful of fresh blood was spat out. His body suddenly shot backwards, dragging over the ground and forming a scar that was over a dozen meters in length. Only then did his body slowly stop.

The sudden change in the arena also caused an exclamation to break out all around them. It was the first time that a person had really spit out blood and become injured since both parties had begun to fight. Moreover, the shock on their faces became even denser when they saw that the person, who had been forced back after being injured, was Hong Chen.

With the battle having continued until such a stage, some people who had observed carefully had discovered that Hong Chen had not even touched Xiao Yan's clothes since the beginning. Yet, Hong Chen had already ended up in an exceptionally miserable state.

Xiao Yan raised his eyes slightly after forcing Hong Chen back with a palm. He glanced at Hong Chen on the ground in the distance and faintly said, “Stand up, that palm won't take your life.”

“Pah.” Hong Chen's face was dark and cold. His eyes were filled with a ferociousness. A mouthful of fresh blood that was mixed with his saliva was spat out before he slowly climbed up. Sinister words were emitted from his mouth, “You are the first from the same generation who has forced me into such a state.”

Hong Chen rubbed the blood trace from the corner of his mouth. He raised his head and revealed a pair of savage eyes that seemed to belong to an injured wild beast. He violently bit his tongue and a mouthful of fresh blood was spat out. It was scattered onto the Mighty Lightning Hammer. When the fresh blood made contact with the hammer, a bloody stench immediately began to spread over the Mighty Lightning Hammer.

Hong Chen inhaled a deep breath of air while his hand held the Mighty Lightning Hammer. A roar was immediately emitted from his mouth as violent lightning affinity Dou Qi surged out of his body in a cackling manner, appearing just like lightning. Finally, it completely gathered on the Mighty Lightning Hammer in his hand.

With the gathering of an increasing amount of lightning Dou Qi, the blood trace on the Mighty Lightning Hammer also scattered. It merged with the lightning Dou Qi, causing the wild and violent strength within it to soar by many times.

Looking at Hong Chen's actions in the arena, the expressions of those in the Hong clan changed slightly. The gray-clothed, old man also sighed softly as he said, "He has actually forced Hong Chen to use the Dou Skill that was personally taught to him by the Pavilion leader of our Northern Pavilion. This Xiao Yan is indeed very strong. It is likely that there's hardly anyone among the same generation of the Wind Lightning Pavilion who could compete with him. Unless..."

The gray-clothed, old man shook slightly when his words reached this point. Immediately, he muttered, "Unless Miss Feng is the one fighting..."

Hong Lie's body immediately stiffened when he heard this. His suppressed voice spoke with shock, "Miss Feng? Old Huan, are you referring to that Miss Feng who was the only one in the Wind Lightning Pavilion within the last hundred years who had passed through the Sky Lightning Tower test?"

The gray-clothed, old man nodded indifferently. He did not say anything else as his eyes looked at the arena.

The Dou Qi within Hong Chen's body in the arena was completely poured into the Mighty Lightning Hammer. A lightning glow that was over a hundred feet in size lingered over him, wrapping his entire body within it.

"Exterminating Lightning Hammer!"

A hoarse voice was suddenly emitted from within the lightning glow. Immediately, the Mighty Lightning Hammer in Hong Chen's hand

appeared like an enormous sky lightning that violently smashed into the ground. At that instant, the entire Sky Stone Stage began to shake in an intense manner!

“Ao!”

The Mighty Lightning Hammer smashed heavily onto the ground. Enormous cracks repeatedly spread out. Immediately, a lightning glow that was over a hundred feet in size transformed into a savage lightning beast that shook the ground and formed many crack the moment its four limbs landed on the ground. After taking a couple of steps in this manner, it appeared above Xiao Yan’s head like lightning. A soul-stirring roar sounded and its claw, which was agglomerated from lightning, violently smashed toward Xiao Yan’s head.

Space became distorted with this attack. Threads of dark-black spatial lines had even vaguely appeared. This force was indeed terrifying.

Faced with this savage lightning beast’s frightening speed and attack, Xiao Yan also felt a little surprised in his heart. A silver glow suddenly appeared under his feet. Immediately, his body let out a ‘Xiu’ sound, transforming into numerous afterimages as he withdrew, easily dodging the lightning beasts lightning-like attack. However, Xiao Yan appeared to have thought of something after having withdrawn for a short distance. He suddenly stopped his body while his heart cried out ‘this is bad.’

The instant Xiao Yan’s body stopped, the gray-clothed, old man in the Hong clan’s seat suddenly widened his eyes. He immediately stood up in shock. His clothes moved in the absence of the wind as his gaze stared intently at Xiao Yan. Each of his words was spoke with a pause, “Three Thousand Lightning Movement?”

Chapter 964: Unexpected Change

Xiao Yan had habitually revealed the Three Thousand Lightning Movement, which he had kept hidden, and successfully dodged the attack of this lightning beast. However, his body had just paused when the lightning beast sensed something. It raised its head to the sky and cried out furious. All four of its legs violently stomped on the ground. The crack lines spread and its body once again transformed into lightning that shot toward Xiao Yan.

“Hmph!”

A cold expression flashed across Xiao Yan’s face after meeting this lightning beast a couple of times. It was likely that this skill was Hong Chen’s killing move. Its strength was indeed quite great. It was likely a Di class Dou Skill. However, it seemed to require essence blood to activate. Thus, once this skill was used, he would descend into a weary state. In other words, the current Hong Chen was no longer in possession of fighting strength. As long as Xiao Yan was able to settle this lightning beast that was transformed from the lightning Dou Qi in Hong Chen’s body, this battle would end with the Hong clan losing.

Xiao Yan swiftly took a couple of steps back. His hands swiftly formed some seals as numerous afterimages flew, causing one’s eyes to be dazzled. Following the formation of his hand seal, a wave of jade-green crystal glows swiftly surged from his hand.

The hand seal was moved while the wild beats in front attacked once again. It was even accompanied by a little lightning roar. Xiao Yan frowned slightly. His footsteps withdrew once again and his mouth was also swiftly pulsing. In the end, he became like a toad as he suddenly opened his mouth. Immediately, a soul-stirring lion tiger roar charged up to the sky.

“Lion Tiger Gold Shattering Roar!”

The sudden substance-like sonic wave was spread out from Xiao Yan’s mouth quickly. In the face of a head-on collision with this sonic wave, the

lightning beast's body that was viciously pouncing over paused immediately. The thunderbolts all over its body were flashing wildly like electricity. Its four limbs also rubbed against the ground as it was forced back dozens of meters before finally managing to completely block the strength of the sonic wave.

The strength from the sonic wave had just scattered when the lightning beast enormous eyes flickered. A low roar was emitted as it raised its forelimbs. Its enormous body pounced forward like a hungry tiger, that had found its prey, and it leaped dozens of meters forward before appearing above Xiao Yan's head. Its savage mouth, covered in a lightning glow, viciously bit toward Xiao Yan's head.

Xiao Yan did not withdraw again in the face of the wild bite from the lightning beast. The rate at which his hands formed the seal became faster. An instant later, they suddenly paused and the bright jade-green crystal glow swiftly agglomerated into a mysterious energy handprint.

This jade-green energy handprint was only the size of a palm. Its entire body was emitting a crystal luster, looking as though it was being manufactured by a green-colored crystal which gave it an exquisite appearance. Not only was its appearance beautiful, but the energy that was contained within it was quite frightening.

While the handprint was formed, the dark figure above Xiao Yan's head had also swiftly arrived. A cold smile surfaced on his face as he raised his head and looked at the enormous mouth of the lightning glow. His body dodged and his arm curled in a strange manner before pressing into the lightning beast's head!

“Sea Flipping Seal!”

The lightning beast immediately unleashed a frightening roar when the two met. Crackling lightning arcs leaped all over its body. However, these lightning glows swiftly disappeared in a strange manner when they made contact with the jade-green crystal light.

“Smash!”

A chill flashed across Xiao Yan's eyes as his mouth suddenly emitted a

low cry. His hand shook violently and the strength of the light seal suddenly erupted!

The bright jade-green glow was just like a sun that had exploded at this moment. The strength of the light covered the wild and violent lightning glow on the body of the lightning beast. Under the erosion of this majestic energy, the arrogant lightning beast emitted a sobbing whine. In the end, it turned into a silver-colored light spot with a 'boom' sound, and burst apart in front of numerous shocked eyes...

The light seal had also swiftly disappeared the moment the lightning beast burst apart. Xiao Yan's eyes were cold as he glanced at the shocked face of Hong Chen in the distance. He tightened his hand and the heavy ruler once again appeared. His feet stepped on the ground and his body instantaneously disappeared.

Hong Chen's expression changed the moment he saw Xiao Yan's body disappear. He looked at the Mighty Lightning Hammer beside him and his hand hurriedly extended out. Before his hand could make contact with the hammer, however, a fierce wind viciously smashed into his body. The fierce force shook his body until it was dragged over the ground, forming a scar that was dozens of meters long.

"Grug."

Hong Chen spat out a mouthful of fresh blood after suffering a heavy blow once again. Before he could get up, the black figure came attacking again. Finally, it carried the momentum of a lightning bolt as it ruthlessly came slamming onto Hong Chen's head.

"I admit defeat!"

Hong Chen's eyes shrank as he hurriedly cried out when he saw the enormous body of the ruler appearing.

"Chi!"

The heavy ruler came to a sudden stop when it was still half-a-foot from Hong Chen's head. The force that was contained in it was transmitted down through the air and slammed Hong Chen's entire body into the

ground. Hong Chen appeared like a toad that had been flattened. His entire body appeared extremely miserable.

At this moment, Xiao Yan was holding the ruler with one hand. The enormous ruler's body paused above Hong Chen's head while his entire body was pressed into the ground. This scene caused the entire Sky Stone Stage to become dead quiet.

No one had expected such an ending. At the beginning, no one had thought that this renowned young genius of the Tian Bei City would be defeated in such a terrible and miserable manner by an unfamiliar-looking young man...

The fight had lasted for a period of time, but anyone with truly great eyesight would have been able to discover that Hong Chen had used all of his strength while the linen-clothed, young man appeared like a rippleless old well since the beginning. He seemed like bottomless water that was unfathomable, making it difficult for others to predict anything...

"He has really won..."

Everyone from the Han clan in the Han clan's seats looked at Hong Chen in the arena who was forced by Xiao Yan's heavy ruler until he dared not even move. They inhaled a deep breath of air and muttered in a manner that suggested they did not quite dare to believe the situation.

"Although I had already thought highly of him, it seems that I have still underestimated him. This young man is indeed incredible..." Han Chi softly exhaled as he sighed.

The two happiest people were Han Yue and Han Xue. Han Yue sighed in relief, appearing as though she had removed a heavy burden while Han Xue was inexplicably happy. The skinny figure in the arena had unknowingly left behind an unforgettable imprint within her heart...

"Clap clap!"

The Sky Stone Stage was quiet for a moment before the silence was gradually broken by a wave of applause and cheers. The exciting battle between the younger generation had caused them to feel that their trip

was worthwhile. This was especially the case for the linen-clothed, young man who had left them with an extremely deep impression.

The expressions of the people from the Hong clan were unusually ugly amid the cheers of the entire place. Originally, they had thought that they had trapped the Han clan, but they ended up trapping themselves. They had lost all their face today.

Xiao Yan slowly retracted his Heavy Xuan Ruler while standing in the arena. He lowered his head, glanced at Hong Chen before turning around to leave.

Xiao Yan's body had just turned around when a savage and vicious expression flashed across Hong Chen's eyes while he lay on the ground. Both of his hands pressed on the ground and a lightning hidden arrow shot out of his sleeves and pierced toward Xiao Yan's back.

The sudden unexpected change had immediately caused a countless number of people to let out an exclamation. Immediately, curses sounded. Xiao Yan had let Hong Chen live, yet the latter had actually dared to perform such a despicable and cowardly act...

"Chi!"

The lightning hidden arrow accurately struck Xiao Yan's back in front of many shocked gazes before penetrating it. However, not even a little trace of blood appeared as a result. Instead, it caused the figure to gradually become blurry.

"Afterimage?"

Hong Chen's heart was immediately shocked upon seeing this scene. He hurriedly pulled back. However, his feet had just stepped back when his body suddenly stiffened. A hand had unknowingly been placed on a spot behind him.

"Stop!"

Numerous furious roars were immediately emitted from the Hong clan's seats when they saw Xiao Yan suddenly appearing behind Hong Chen. The gray-clothed, old man immediately moved, transforming into a blurry

figure that shot toward the arena.

“You have given this life of yours away. Don’t blame anyone but yourself.”

A soft voice was transmitted into Hong Chen’s ear while a terrifying chill was spreading from Hong Chen’s heart. Before he could beg for mercy, a force had already been ruthlessly shot into his back.

“Grug!”

A mouthful of fresh blood was wildly spat out and Hong Chen’s body feebly fell. Finally, his head smashed onto the ground.

Xiao Yan unleashed a breath and kicked out at the same time, sending Hong Chen’s body flying toward a force that was shot over.

The gray-clothed, old man who was rushing over was just about to attack when he saw Hong Chen shooting toward him. He immediately waved his sleeve and the force was reduced. His hand grabbed Hong Chen and hurriedly observed him. Immediately, the man’s expression turned gloomy. Hong Chen did indeed still have a trace of breath remaining. However, the veins in his body had been completely broken by Xiao Yan’s palm. In other words, even if Hong Chen was healed, it was likely that he would be a cripple.

The gray-clothed, old man’s gaze was sinister as he turned to Xiao Yan. In his extreme anger, he ended up laughing, “Good, good. You actually dared to kill someone from my Wind Lightning Pavilion. Brat, you will definitely regret it!”

The old man swung his sleeves after his words sounded. A wind wrapped around the unconscious Hong Chen before throwing him toward Hong Li’s group who was following close behind. Hong Li received Hong Chen only for his expression to turn green immediately. His gaze was filled with a vicious expression as he looked at Xiao Yan.

“Regardless of who you are, my Hong clan will not rest until you die!”

Hong Li’s vicious voice caused the noisy Sky Stone Stage to gradually become quiet.

Xiao Yan's expression did not change in the face of these vicious words of Hong Li. He replied with a faint voice, "According to what clan head Hong has said, it is my fault for retaliating when he launched a sneak attack against me? You should also know that if I had not been quick to dodge earlier, my ending would not have been any better than his."

"The old me doesn't care about this. You have beaten my son into a cripple. I will use your life as repayment!" Hong Li spoke in a savage manner.

Xiao Yan coldly laughed.

"There is no need for you to say anything more. Today, you will not be able to escape." The gray-clothed, old man's gaze coldly looked at Xiao Yan as he slowly said. "Before this, however, you must tell the old me just where you have learned the Three Thousand Lightning Movement from. The Wind Lightning Pavilion definitely does not have a disciple like you!"

Xiao Yan knit his brows slightly. It had indeed been recognized, but so what if it had.

Chapter 965: Not Qualified

The unexpected change that had occurred in the arena caused the Sky Stone Stage to become a lot quieter. Everyone looked at one another, feeling uncertain about what had happened. From the way they saw it, Hong Chen deserved to be seriously injured. After all, the other party had let him off, but he had actually launched a sneak attack. Such an ending was something that he deserved. Of course, due to the strength of the Hong clan in Tian Bei City, no one dared to voice the thoughts within their hearts.

“Hong Li, what are all of you doing?”

Other people might not say anything, but the Han clan definitely needed to step forward. Immediately a group of human figures rushed down from the tall platform before finally entering the arena and appearing beside Xiao Yan.

“Hong Li, Hong Chen has already been defeated in this match today. Does the Hong clan wish to eat their words?” Han Chi furiously stared at Hong Li and coldly cried out, “The Sky Stone Stage is the natural fighting ring of the Tian Bei City. One’s life and death is up to fate when one fights in this place. Don’t tell me that your Hong clan is unaware of the rules?”

Hong Li’s face twitched a little upon being reprimanded by Han Chi. The fierceness in his eyes surged as he furiously laughed, “The old me doesn’t care. This brat has hurt my son. The Hong clan will definitely not just let things be. Does your Han clan wish to start a war with my Hong clan because of an outsider?”

Han Chi’s face turned gloomy. His gaze stared at Hong Li as his cold voice firmly resounded above the arena, “Xiao Yan is someone the Han clan has invited. If we abandon him after he lent our Han clan a hand, who else would dare help our Han clan in the future. Even if you wish to use war as a threat, I shall clearly state that the Han clan will protect Xiao Yan!”

The Han clan had to step forward even if they needed to start a war with

the Hong clan for an outsider regardless of the benefits or losses in doing so. If they were to shrink back at this moment, the reputation of the Han clan would become terrible. In the future, they could forget about surviving in the Tian Bei City. Han Chi clearly understood this point. Hence, his words were extremely stern when he spoke them. There was not the least bit of hesitation.

These words of Han Chi were not without any effect. At the very least waves after waves of cheers sounded from around the Sky Stone Stage after these words were uttered.

Seeing that Han Chi was determined to oppose him, the expression of Hong Li immediately became extremely ugly. Although the words he spoke were a little vicious, their Han clan did not stand on the righteous side in the matter today. However, it was also impossible if he was asked to swallow this foul taste of Hong Chen being crippled for no reason. Hong Chen had always been seen as the rising star of their Hong clan. The clan had put in an enormous amount of effort to groom him. However, Hong Chen had been completely crippled by Xiao Yan. How could his fury be extinguished?

“The Han clan does have some courage...”

A faint old voice suddenly sounded while Hong Li’s expression changed. Everyone followed the voice and looked over, only to see the gray-clothed, old man.

Han Chi’s eyes swept over the gray-clothed, old man. His expression changed slightly after pausing on the badge on the other party’s chest. “Someone from the Wind Lightning Pavilion?” Everyone knew that the Wind Lightning Pavilion was incomparably strong and was unreasonable in their actions. The people there were were also terribly arrogant, causing others to involuntarily feel worried.

“May I know old sir’s name?” Han Chi cupped his hands together and courteously asked. Even though the Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion was merely one of the four pavilions, it was still much stronger than their Han clan. Hence, Han Chi was naturally afraid of slighting the other party.

“The old me is Chen Yun from the Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion.” The gray-clothed old man raised his eyes. His voice still remained impassive.

“Chen Yun? Doesn’t that name belong to one of the four great Elders of the Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion, Elder Yun?” Han Chi’s heart tightened upon hearing this name as he anxiously asked.

“You are indeed worthy of being the Han clan by having quite a great understanding of my Wind Lightning Pavilion.” The gray-clothed, old man smiled faintly as he replied.

“Old Chen must be joking. The four great Elders, Feng, Yun, Lei, Dian are all renowned within the northern region of the Central Plains. How could this younger generation not know about them.” Han Chi cupped his hands and smiled. Immediately, he probingly said, “Old Chen, Xiao Yan has indeed been a little too heavy-handed in the matter today. However, the blades and spears don’t have eyes when one fights. Injuries and deaths are common...”

The gray-clothed, old man waved his hand and interrupted Han Chi’s words. He glanced at Xiao Yan, whose expression ultimately did not show much changes before slowly speaking, “The grand Elder of the Han clan and I can be considered to have been acquaintances back then. I shall not make things difficult for you. I can indeed temporarily put the matter of Hong Chen being injured aside. However, before this, this person must honestly account to the old me just where the Three Thousand Lightning Movement that he practices originated from.”

Chen Yun’s face suddenly became much darker and colder when he spoke until the end. The Three Thousand Lightning Movement had a special meaning to the Wind Lightning Pavilion. Not only was it one of the top agility techniques in the Wind Lightning Pavilion, but only by mastering the Three Thousand Lightning Movement until the highest level would one possess the qualification to practice the Wind Lightning Pavilion’s most guarded skill.

Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body!

The reason that the Wind Lightning Pavilion possessed its current position on the Central Plains today was related to this Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body. However, the difficulty of practicing this was extremely high. One of the requirements was that one needed to master the Three Thousand Lightning Movement until the highest level. During these years, there had been few people, within the entire Wind Lightning Pavilion, who had successfully mastered it.

One could describe the Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body as the evolved form of the Three Thousand Lightning Movement. Hence, this agility Dou Skill was guarded very tightly by the Wind Lightning Pavilion. Unless one was a core disciple, one would not have the qualification to practice it. Now, however, this old fellow had suddenly seen this agility Dou Skill being displayed by Xiao Yan. No wonder he would be so affected by it.

The expressions of Han Chi's group changed when they heard Chen Yun's words. Their shocked gazes looked to Xiao Yan. Clearly, they also felt extremely surprised that Xiao Yan was actually in possession of the Wind Lightning Pavilion's ultimate skill.

"The Three Thousand Lightning Movement is only something that I obtained by chance. I would like to ask Elder Chen. If you were to suddenly obtain a Di class agility Dou Skill, would you abandon it or would you practice it yourself?" Xiao Yan raised his eyes, looked at the gray-clothed, old man, and spoke in an indifferent manner.

"Obtained by chance?" Chen Yun laughed coldly. He said, "Ten years ago, my Wind Lightning Pavilion's Book Collection Hall was broken into by someone who ended up stealing quite a number of Qi Methods and Dou Skills. Among them was the Three Thousand Lightning Movement. I think that you should have some relationship with that person, wouldn't you?"

"If you wish to trump up the charges, there is no need to worry about the pretext of doing so. I do not have the blessing to enjoy this great charge of Elder Chen. Don't tell me that the people of the Wind Lightning Pavilion all act like this?" Xiao Yan only laughed coldly in the face of the charges of

this old fellow.

“Brat, shut your mouth. Do you think that the Wind Lightning Pavilion is something that the little you can insult? Moreover, you actually dare to act so presumptuous in front of Elder Chen? Looks like you really look down on his elderly self.” Hong Li stepped forward and furiously yelled.

Han Chi frowned slightly upon hearing these words. He quietly scolded ‘shameless’ in his heart. By saying these words, this fellow was clearly intending to place Xiao Yan in front of Chen Yun and get Chen Yun to act. Thus, the Hong clan would have taken revenge and would not be badmouthed by others.

While Han Chi was quietly scolding in his heart, his sleeve was suddenly pulled down. He turned his head, only to see the pretty face of Han Xue begging him. A low voice was transmitted into his ears, “Father, you must help him...”

Han Chi laughed bitterly and sighed. This girl...

“Old Chen. This matter is likely just a misunderstanding. If we discuss it properly, we should be able to resolve it. Why must we meet with swords drawn?” Han Chi cupped his hands toward Chen Yun and spoke courteously.

“This matter has nothing to do with your Han clan. The Three Thousand Lightning Movement is one of the secret skills that cannot be spread to any outsider. Hence, this matter cannot simply be put aside.” Chen Yun coldly glanced at Han Chi. His gaze immediately slid to Xiao Yan as he coldly spoke, “You have two choices. One, return with me to the Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion and allow the pavillion head to decide how to deal with you. Two, the old me will kill you on the spot. No matter what, the Three Thousand Lightning Movement must not land in the hands of an outsider.”

The people from the Hong clan quietly laughed in a cold voice upon hearing the words of Chen Yun that left no room for argument. The faces of Han Chi’s group had turned extremely ugly instead. Han Xue’s pretty face had suddenly become a lot paler.

“Old Chen...” Han Chi opened his mouth with the intention of saying something more.

“Han Chi, the old me only allowed you to speak so much on account of the grand Elder of the Han clan. Do not fail to appreciate kindness. This matter is not something that you can meddle in. If you really wish to do so, your Han clan will likely be unable to endure the fury of the Wind Lightning Pavilion.” Chen Yun coldly cried out.

Han Chi’s expression changed slightly upon hearing Yun Chen’s cold cry. The strength of the Han clan and the Wind Lightning Pavilion was too far apart. If the other party intended on destroying them, it would only require an intention.

“Uncle Han, this matter has nothing to do with all of you. Do not continue to meddle...” A laugh was transmitted over while Han Chi was struggling in his heart. This caused the his heart to shake. He raised his head, only to see Xiao Yan’s smiling face.

“Xiao Yan... sorry...”

Han Chi’s fist was slightly tightened as he sighed. He was the clan head of the Han clan. He was responsible to the Han Clan for each and every single action. These words of Xiao Yan had clearly indicated that he did not wish for the Han clan to be implicated in this matter.

Xiao Yan smiled. He did not blame Han Chi. The strength of the Wind Lightning Pavilion was extremely great. It was fine for Xiao Yan who was by himself. At the very most, he could just flee. The Central Plains was huge. How would the Wind Lightning Pavilion be able to do as it pleased? However, if he were to get the Han clan involved, the Han clan would become his burden. Hence, Xiao Yan was still extremely calm in his heart. Actually, when it came to this level of his, all of this no longer matter. The so-called laughing at the situation was describing this principle.

“Hei, it is unexpected that you still have some loyalty.” Chen Yun coldly laughed. His shriveled hand was slowly extended from his sleeves as he faintly said, “Since that is the case, are you planning to follow me back to the Wind Lightning Pavilion, or do you wish for the old me to act and

cripple you?”

Xiao Yan suddenly laughed as he looked at the indifferent face of Chen Yun. He shook his head, “I am not interested in the Wind Lightning Pavilion. Hence, I will not go...”

Chen Yun nodded. The killing intent in his eyes soared.

“In that case, you are choosing the second route...”

Xiao Yan slowly raised his head. Pride flashed across his young and handsome face as he parted his mouth and smiled.

“As for crippling me... honestly speaking, you are still not qualified to do so with your strength, which has not reached that of a five star Dou Zong!”

Chapter 966: Demon Puppet Revealed

Xiao Yan's words caused the entire arena to become stunned. Although his performance earlier was extremely shocking, it seemed that it was far from sufficient for him to rely on that strength to speak to an elite peak four star Dou Zong in this manner. Actually, no one could be blamed for thinking like this. With Xiao Yan's current age, most people would feel that it was a little ridiculous to believe that he could defeat a Wind Lightning Pavilion Elder who had long become renowned. Moreover, Xiao Yan had also stolen the secret skill of the Wind Lightning Pavilion. The Wind Lightning Pavilion would not let him off no matter what. Most of the people present were merely adopting a mentality of watching a show play out in front of them.

Cold smiles were lifted on the faces of those from the Hong clan. From the way they saw it, Xiao Yan was completely seeking death by contradicting Chen Yun in this manner.

Han Chi also laughed bitterly in his heart as he let out a sigh. He did not know why the extremely calm Xiao Yan would suddenly say such words. The strength of this Chen Yun was similar to that reclusive Grand Elder of their Han clan. Xiao Yan's strength could indeed be considered outstanding among those of the same class. However, the person in front of him now was not some Dou Huang. Instead, it was a renowned elite Dou Zong!

Han Xue's pretty face was pale-white. She clenched her hand, bit her lower red lip with the back of her teeth. She was extremely unwilling to let things develop until such an extent. From the way she saw it, if she had not stubbornly invited Xiao Yan, he would not have ended up getting involved in the matter between the Han and Hong clan. As such, he would also not reveal the matter of possessing the Three Thousand Lightning Movement and end up attracting trouble.

A pair of somewhat icy hands gently held Han Xue's delicate hand while she was blaming herself. She turned her head and found that it was Han Yue.

“Elder sister...” Han Xue looked at Han Yue. Some moisture was gathering in her bright eyes.

“Ugh, there is no need to worry. Xiao Yan is not a reckless person. If he dares to speak in this manner, he might well possess some confidence...” Han Yue rubbed Han Xue’s smooth, black hair as she comforted her. However, her comforting words appeared somewhat ridiculous even to herself. After all, the strength of this Chen Yun Elder was even stronger than that of First Elder Su Qian from the Inner Academy. Regardless of how strong Xiao Yan was, he was ultimately still a Dou Huang.

The gap between a Dou Huang and a Dou Zong was something that Han Yue, being a Dou Huang, understood clearly in her heart.

“Ha ha.”

While everyone’s hearts were churning with different thoughts, Chen Yun ended up laughing in his extreme anger after being momentarily stunned. This was the first time in so many years that a person from the younger generation had told him he was unqualified!

“It is indeed the case of the young replacing the old. The young people these days are getting more and more arrogant. Alright, alright. Today, let this old me personally witness why the old me is unqualified?” Chen Yun laughed to the sky. However, everyone could hear the fury within his loud laughter. It seemed that this Elder from the Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion was truly angered by Xiao Yan’s words.

Upon hearing the fury that was hidden within Chen Yun’s words, the hearts of Han Chi’s group sank. However, being the person involved, Xiao Yan merely used a pair of dark-black ink-like eyes to stare at the laughing Chen Yun intently. There was a chillness faintly flashing within them.

Getting into trouble with the Wind Lightning Pavilion was not something that Xiao Yan was willing to see happen. However, this did not mean that he would simply allow the other party to do as they pleased in disposing him. Following this old fellow to the Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion was definitely not something that Xiao Yan would agree to. When he reached their territory where they had a large number of people, it was

likely that he would be unable to survive even if he possessed the Earth Demon Puppet. This foolish act of placing himself in a situation where he would die was something that he would never do.

Although this old fellow Chen Yun was an expert at the peak of a four star Dou Zong, Xiao Yan was not afraid of him. With his numerous trump cards, there was no need to even discuss escaping from Chen Yun's hand. It was not impossible even if he wished to kill Chen Yun. However, if he did this, he would once again descend into a weary state.

The smile on Chen Yun's face gradually turned gloomy after being stared at by Xiao Yan's icy-cold eyes. His shriveled hand curled slightly as threads of frightening lightning flickered. Finally, they leaped and appeared like electric arcs.

"The old me really doesn't believe that you can escape from my hands today."

A killing intent was revealed in Chen Yun's eyes as he slowly stepped forward. His body strangely disappeared the moment his foot landed.

The faces of Han Chi's group changed slightly upon seeing Chen Yun disappear. This old fellow had indeed attacked!

Han Xue's pretty face grew even paler. She clenched her hand and suddenly tossed Han Yue's hand aside. Her body swiftly rushed forward. She had just appeared in front of Xiao Yan when Chen Yun slowly appeared.

"Xue-er!"

Han Chi's face became shocked as Han Xue suddenly rushed forward. He hurriedly cried out.

"You are seeking death!"

Chen Yun, who had appeared, glanced at Han Xue, who was blocking the path in front of him. The corner of his mouth emitted a cold cry as he waved his sleeves. A majestic force swept out and arrived in front of her in the blink of an eye. Under such a powerful force, even Han Xue's heart formed a chill that was difficult to resist.

Just when Han Xue was waiting to die, a suction force suddenly surged from behind. Her body was swiftly pulled back before Xiao Yan grabbed her delicate waist and quickly withdrew.

“Hmph!”

Chen Yun let out a cold snort when he saw Xiao Yan intervene. A silver glow appeared under his feet. His body trembled while a thunderous roar sounded.

Xiao Yan’s body suddenly shifted while he was quickly withdrawing. He could not care for the delicate beauty in his embrace as he threw his palm against her. A gentle force erupted, throwing her gently toward Han Chi’s group.

Xiao Yan’s eyes shrank slightly after having just sent Han Xue away. A ghost-like figure appeared above his head as a ghost-claw that was flickering with a lightning glow trickily and viciously struck at his head. It carried a terrifying force that tore through the sky.

The faces of Han Chi’s group immediately turned ugly as they watched Chen Yun, who had used such a vicious strike against Xiao Yan the moment he attacked. Han Xue, who had just been received by Han Yue, had an even paler pretty face. Her lovely body had become unsteady.

The lightning glow ghost-claw came crashing down in front of many shocked gazes. Just as quite a number of people felt unable to watch the bloody scene and planned to shut their eyes, a bright silver-colored glow suddenly erupted in front of Xiao Yan. A blurry human figure appeared amid the silver glow.

“Bang!”

The silver glow had just appeared when a completely silver-colored arm suddenly penetrated the silver glow and violently collided with Chen Yun’s lightning ghost-claw. Immediately, a muffled sound and a frightening air wave spread out like ocean waves from the point of contact. Spider-web-like cracks began to appear on the ground wherever the wave passed.

“Clang!”

The silver-colored arm and the lightning ghost-claw paused for an instant before old man's body shook. Under the violent airwaves, its owner's feet hurriedly took over a dozen steps back in empty space before barely managing to stabilize his body.

The sudden scene caused all the eyes present to solidify. This was especially the case when they saw that it was actually Chen Yun who was unable to hold out and was forced back in the exchange. Shock came surging out of their hearts in an uncontrolled manner.

Chen Yun steadied his body and swiftly raised his head. Some astonishment had also appeared on his face, which was covered with killing intent. His eyes stared intently at the silver glow as he spoke in a deep voice, "Who are you? This is a matter of my Wind Lightning Pavilion. Please do not intervene!"

The silver glow slowly scattered under Chen Yun's focus. Finally, a human figure that seemed to be completely constructed from silver appeared in front of the eyes of everyone present.

The human figure was not very huge. Instead, it appeared a little skinny. Its skin was like silver while both of its eyes were empty, and a vague silver glow flickered within it. Moreover, the thing that really shocked people was that there was not a single person who could sense its breathing.

"It is actually a puppet? How is it possible that this fellow possesses such a powerful puppet?"

Chen Yun was immediately startled after the silver glow disappeared. With his eyesight, he was naturally able to tell that this was a puppet without any will. Moreover, the thing that he really could not believe was that the strength of this puppet was stronger than him!

"I have said before that you do not have the qualification to cripple me."

A voice that contained a dark chill was slowly emitted from behind the silver-colored human figure. Immediately, Xiao Yan stepped forward and stared at Chen Yun with dense eyes.

Chen Yun's face twitched a little as he sinisterly said, "It is unexpected that you actually possess a Dou Zong class puppet. I have really underestimated you..."

The moment these words were said, both the people from the Han and Hong clan became dull. A Dou Zong class puppet? This... how was this possible?

"Kill him!"

Xiao Yan was expressionless. His finger suddenly pointed toward Chen Yun as he slowly gave a command.

Xiao Yan's voice had just sounded when the Earth Demon Puppet in front of him stepped on the ground. With a 'Xiu' sound, it transformed into a light figure that charged toward Chen Yun. This act of completely relying on its physical speed to cause a sonic boom along the way caused everyone watching it to become speechless.

Chen Yun's heart sank as the Earth Demon Puppet charged over. After the brief exchange earlier, he knew that the strength of this puppet was stronger than him. Its physical body was so strong that it was frightening. Additionally, it did not have the slightest feeling of pain. If one were to really fight, Chen Yun was definitely no match for it.

"Hong Li, I will hold back this puppet. You will kill that brat. Once he dies, the puppet will naturally stop. Once he is finished off, I will give this Dou Zong class puppet to your Hong clan!" Chen Yun hurriedly dodged when the silver glow flickered. At the same time, he let out a cry.

Hong Li was initially startled when he heard this. Immediately, a greediness that was difficult to hide erupted from his eyes. A Dou Zong class puppet was worth the entire Hong clan going all out to obtain!

"Old Chen, please be reassured. I will personally act and kill this brat to take revenge for my son, who was injured by him!" Hong Li licked his mouth and smiled in a savage manner.

"Relax, if anyone dares to stop you, I, as an Elder of the Wind Lightning Pavilion, will announce that that person will be an enemy of the Wind

Lightning Pavilion. We will not rest until we finish him off!” The next words from Yun Chen caused Han Chi, whose feet were just about to move, to turn gloomy.

“Ha ha, thank you Old Chen!”

Hong Li let out a loud laugh as he gloatingly glanced at Han Chi. After which, he revealed a cruel smile toward the indifferent face of Xiao Yan. His dark, cold voice was filled with an incomparable killing intent.

“Brat, relax, I will first break all your four limbs and allow you to taste what is called a fate worse than death!”

Chapter 967: Encirclement By the Hong Clan

Killing intent also flashed across Xiao Yan's expressionless face as he looked at Hong Li striding over with a savage smile. These people from the Hong clan were indeed hateful...

"Hong Li, aren't you ashamed of attacking someone from the younger generation with your status?" Han Chi looked at the pale-faced Han Xue by the side before involuntarily crying out with a furious voice.

Hong Li momentarily paused. He glanced at Han Chi and coldly laughed, "What younger generation? His strength is comparable to even those of our generation. Han Chi, if your Han clan wishes to intervene, you can step forward as long as you aren't afraid of the Wind Lightning Pavilion making you repay after that. Hee hee..."

Han Chi's face turned green upon hearing the threat within Hong Li's words. However, he really did not dare intervene. The words that Chen Yun had mentioned earlier had completely suppressed the Han clan.

The Wind Lightning Pavilion was a great being that the Han clan could not fight against.

Hong Li once again gloatingly laughed when he saw that Han Chi did not dare to make any unusual movements. He clenched his hand and a sharp broadsword appeared in it. The snow-white blade reflected a cold glow under the sunlight that caused palpitations in one's heart.

Shua! Shua! Shua!

The broadsword in Hong Li's hand was randomly hacked a couple of times in front of him. One could see that even the air itself had formed a slight depression. Although this Hong Li was really hateful, his strength was not weaker than Han Chi. According to Xiao Yan's guess, it was likely that this fellow was also an expert who had half a foot in the Dou Zong class.

However, regardless of whether this person had half a foot into the Dou

Zong class, as long as he had not truly entered that level, Xiao Yan would not feel even the least bit of fear. Half a foot into the Dou Zong class and a genuine Dou Zong were not even close to being the same!

Powerful deep-green-colored Dou Qi slowly surged out of Hong Li's body. A wild wind suddenly appeared, whistling as it blew over the arena. The Qi Method Hong Li practiced was of the wind affinity. Dou Qi of this affinity usually leaned more toward speed and agility. Moreover, its offensive strength was also quite strong.

"Hong Li, swiftly finish that brat off!"

Chen Yun's cry was suddenly transmitted over while Xiao Yan was pondering the Qi Method in his heart. However, the cry this time around faintly had the addition of anxiety.

The cold smile on the corner of Xiao Yan's mouth grew even wider as his gaze swiftly followed the voice and turned. He could see that Chen Yun, who still had a look of superiority earlier, had already been suppressed by the Earth Demon Puppet until he was at a disadvantage. Each time it swung its fist, he would be forced to dodge in a miserable manner. With the strength of the Earth Demon Puppet, Chen Yun was completely no match for it in a head-on collision. Since the puppet could not use a Dou Skill, it was likely that his situation would not become more treacherous.

Even though this was the case, anyone could tell that Chen Yun only had the ability to protect himself under the attacks of the Earth Demon Puppet. He did not have the ability to retaliate.

Chen Yun's situation was also absorbed by Hong Li's eyes. His heart involuntarily quivered. It was unexpected that the puppet would be so strong. Even Chen Yun had ended up in such a situation. Looks like he needed to quickly settle this matter. Otherwise, once the puppet killed Chen Yun, the unlucky ones would be their Hong clan.

Hong Li's fist tightened when he thought until this point. Deep-green-colored Dou Qi lingered over his body like a tornado. He held the broadsword tightly and laughed ferociously at Xiao Yan. His feet immediately stomped viciously on the ground as he transformed into a

blurry figure that suddenly shot forth!

“Chi!”

With the increase in Hong Li's speed by the wind affinity Dou Qi, he managed to appear in front of Xiao Yan within a couple of blinks. The broadsword in his hand emitted a 'shua shua' sound as it danced, forming a couple of glaring blade glows which violently hacked at Xiao Yan with lightning-like momentum.

The blade glow landed on Xiao Yan's body and penetrated it. However, it did not lead to even the slightest amount of blood being spilled.

“An afterimage huh?” Hong Li's eyes coagulated slightly.

Xiao Yan's figure appeared around ten meters behind the afterimage. His gaze was ice-cold as he looked at Hong Li who was looking over. His hands curled into a fist and a fierce jade-green flame surged out from it. After which, he separated the flames into a cluster of green flames and a cluster of invisible flames.

The temperature of the arena suddenly surged when the two kinds of flame appeared. It seemed that even the moisture in the air had been completely vaporized at this moment.

Hong Li's heart was startled when he sensed this change. His body moved with his thoughts as he once again charged toward Xiao Yan in a lightning-like manner.

Xiao Yan's expression did not change in the face of Hong Li's attacks, who had a killing intent all over his body. He activated the Three Thousand Lightning Movement to its limit. Numerous after images appeared in a dazzling manner as he dodged all of the attacks from Hong Li. With his speed, it was natural that Hong Li had difficulty catching up to him. Hong Li's heart also gradually became more furious when he saw that he was being delayed one second after another by Xiao Yan.

While holding back Hong Li, the two clusters of 'Heavenly Flames' in Xiao Yan's hands swiftly began to merge. With Xiao Yan's current strength, merging an Angry Buddha Lotus Flame, created from two

‘Heavenly Flames,’ was an extremely smooth task without the slightest difficulty. The only flaw was that it would need a little time. However, this little flaw was perfectly covered with the support of the Three Thousand Lightning Movement.

Following the gradual formation of the Angry Buddha Lotus Flame in Xiao Yan’s hand, a frighteningly violent energy slowly spread out from it. Upon sensing the strength of this energy, both Hong Li’s and Han Chi’s group experienced a change in their expressions. Under this energy that was filled with destruction, even they could faintly sense a little fear.

“What a frightening Dou Skill... if I end up struck by it, it is likely that I would, at the very least, end up seriously injured or even killed...” Han Chi involuntarily wiped off the cold sweat on his forehead as he spoke in a heartfelt manner. He looked at Hong Li and Xiao Yan flashing all around like a cat playing with a mouse and sensed the increasingly wild and violent energy in Xiao Yan’s hands.

“Looks like he had shown mercy back then. From his performance today, even I would likely have difficulty lasting ten exchanges in his hands... how embarrassing.” Han Tian laughed bitterly. Only now did he understand why Xiao Yan had said those arrogant words when faced with his test a couple of days ago. It seemed that in the eyes of that person, his little strength was not worth being afraid of...

“Xiao Yan should have some background. Otherwise, by just relying on himself, he would have difficulty reaching such a stage regardless of how outstanding his talent is. Forget about the frightening puppet. Just this never ending stream of high class Dou Skills is something that even the younger generation in a faction like the Wind Lightning Pavilion cannot compete with...” Han Chi muttered. From this, it was possible to tell that just what kind of frightening stage Xiao Yan’s strength had reached. However, this was only an estimation. After all, they had never accurately predicted Xiao Yan’s strength.

Han Tian and the others also shared the same thoughts and nodded their heads upon hearing his words. Regardless of how great one’s talent was, there was a limit to one’s ability. It was impossible for someone to

split one's attention to do other things while focusing on training. Moreover... they clearly knew in their hearts that Xiao Yan had another frightening identity. A tier 6 alchemist!

While his strength had reached such a stage, his alchemist skill had also reached a level that an ordinary person had difficulty achieving. This was an unbelievable thing from many people's point of view. The reason was that just any single one of the two would exhaust an incredible amount of effort from a person. If one were able to truly rely on oneself to reach such a stage in both areas, it was likely that the person could only be described by the word 'monster.'

"Everyone from the Hong clan, listen up. Surround this brat!"

While Han Chi and the others were muttering among themselves, Hong Li, who was unable to catch Xiao Yan after a long chase, completely lost his patience.

Quite a number of people were startled upon hearing Hong Li's roar. These fellows were really shameless. Forget about bullying someone younger despite their age. Now, they wanted to bully others with numbers. The face of this Hong clan had been completely lost today...

Some of the experts from the Hong clan hesitated for a moment after hearing Hong Li's roar. However, they could only clench their teeth, harden their faces, and charge forward.

"You shameless bastards!"

Seeing the actions of the Hong clan, Han Xue, who had just become a little calmer, immediately revealed a furious expression. She could not be bothered with the restraints a woman should have as she cursed incandescently. She wanted to charge forward again, but was grabbed by Han Chi.

"Father, Xiao Yan has helped our Han clan. We cannot just simply do nothing, can we?" Han Xue struggled as she asked.

"Ugh, why is it that you are so reckless today? If you were to go, you will only become Xiao Yan's burden and end up dragging him now. Is this

helping him?” Han Chi frowned and reprimanded.

Han Xue only bit her lower red lip and stopped upon hearing this. She attempted to explain, “He is someone whom I invited. I cannot just stand idly by the side and watch him die...”

“Don’t pay me lip service. Do you think that I don’t know what you are thinking?” Han Chi snorted. He involuntarily smiled and sighed when he saw Han Xue’s somewhat embarrassed pretty face.

While they were arguing over on the Han clan’s side, the ten plus experts from the Hong clan had formed a circle that wrapped Xiao Yan within it. This caused Xiao Yan to have difficulty using his agility to dodge.

“Run. Weren’t you happily running around like a rabbit? Once the old me chops off your legs, I will see just how you run!”

Hong Li’s face was savage as he looked at Xiao Yan who had stopped. He held the broadsword and strode over. However, he had just taken two steps forward when his body stiffened.

Xiao Yan’s tall body stood on the stone platform. His dark-black eyes calmly looked at Hong Li. At this moment, the flame in his hand had already completed its merger. A palm-sized beautiful jade-green flame slowly surfaced on his hand. Following the slow rotation of the fire lotus, threads of tiny dark-black spatial lines swiftly spread from it.

“Have you enjoyed the chase?”

Xiao Yan looked at Hong Li’s stiffened face before glancing at the experts from the Hong clan within a ten meter radius from him. The corner of his mouth was lifted into a dense cold smile as he softly asked.

“Pull back!”

Hong Li’s eyes shrunk slightly as he cried out in a stern manner.

“It’s too late...”

Xiao Yan smiled. His body slowly disappeared in a ghost-like manner while the jade-green fire lotus remained in its original spot. After which, a bright crystal glow, which carried a destructive strength, suddenly

exploded!

Chapter 968: Decisive Killing

“Bang!”

A soul-stirring loud sound blasted the stage. Along with it, an enormous jade-green wave of fire carried great momentum as it wildly surged out from the point where it had exploded in a flood-like manner while emitting a loud bang!

At this moment, the entire Sky Stone Stage had begun to intensely tremble. Numerous arm-thick cracks spread out unceasingly from the points where the fire wave reached. The speed at which the fire wave spread was extremely quick. Within a couple of breaths, it caught up with the experts from the Hong clan who had just surrounded Xiao Yan earlier. The fire wave churned and swallowed all of them like a gigantic fierce beast!

Chi Chi!

Blood spluttering sounds were emitted from within the fire wave. Immediately, over a dozen figures seemed to have suffered a heavy blow as they flew backwards. Their bodies rubbed on the ground, forming hundred-meter-long bloody scars that startled one's heart.

The spreading fire wave seemed to have wrapped around over half of the Sky Stone Stage. A countless number of people rubbed the perspiration, that had appeared because of the high temperature, off their foreheads with trembling hands. Their lips shivered as they looked at the fire wave that swept over before quietly disappearing. A shocked expression filled their eyes. Under that destructive strength, they had sensed a kind of terror that was spreading deep within their souls...

That was the terror of death. Under the explosion of the fire lotus, they had sensed a thread of the aura of death.

It was fortunate that the fire wave ultimately did not spread into the audience seats. However, the high temperature that was emitted still caused some people in the front row to feel their bodies become boiling hot. Some of their clothes even let out a 'chi' noise and self-ignited,

shocking them until they repeatedly screamed in panic.

The spreading fire wave continued for nearly a minute before coming to a slow stop. Dense dust covered half of the Sky Stone Stage, causing one to have difficulty seeing what exactly had happened.

A breeze suddenly blew over while the dust permeated the place. It carried the heavy dust as it flew toward the sky before drifting to a distant place.

Following the scattering of the dust, the interior of the Sky Stone Stage finally appeared in front of everyone's eyes. However, their eyes solidified and became dull when they looked over...

All they could see was a pit, hundreds of feet in diameter, appearing in the enormous arena below. There were numerous vein-like lines outside of the pit. They crossed each other and occupied half of the Sky Stone Stage.

Numerous gazes stared at the enormous pit in a dull manner. Momentarily, the entire Sky Stone Stage had descended into silent disbelief. Such frightening destruction had been created by a young Dou Huang...

As residents of Tian Bei City, the people seated in this place had a decent understanding of the hardness of the Sky Stone Stage. It was reported that this enormous stone arena could endure an attack by an elite Dou Zong. However, from the looks of the scene that appeared in front of them, either that was a false rumor or the attack earlier had already exceeded the attack of an ordinary elite Dou Zong.

Those people who had experienced the frightening scene earlier were more inclined to the second possibility. Although the thought of a Dou Huang attempting to display an attack comparable with that of an elite Dou Zong might appear incredulous, the enormous pit in front of them told them that this was indeed the truth.

Han Chi's group had slightly widened their mouths. It was a long while later before they recovered. They inhaled a deep breath and suppressed the churning of their hearts. Their gazes swept across the surroundings of the enormous pit. Over half of the dozen experts from the Hong clan

earlier were lying not far away with charred black bodies. Some of those stronger and luckier ones still had some breath left. However, they were clearly in a seriously wounded situation.

“This time around, the Hong clan... can be considered to have suffered a great loss...”

Han Chi heart laughed in a cold gloating manner as he looked at the charred black fellows. Quite a number of those dozen plus experts from the Hong clan, who had surrounded and attacked Xiao Yan earlier were Dou Huang class experts. This kind of strength might not be considered a peak existence in the Hong clan, but they were definitely the Hong clan’s backbone. Even the Hong clan would have difficulty withstanding losing so many of them in one go.

“Where is Xiao Yan?”

Han Xue by the side anxiously asked while Han Chi was gloating in his heart.

“In the sky.” Han Yue’s pretty eyes looked at the sky as she softly informed everyone.

Everyone gazes hurriedly shifted up when they heard this. They saw a human figure standing in the empty sky. A pair of ten-foot-long crystal bone wings were slowly flapping behind him. There was a slight Wind Lightning Sound when they flapped, appearing extremely gorgeous.

Under the focus of the gazes of those present, Xiao Yan in the sky flapped his bone wings and slowly landed at the edge of the pit. He looked at those experts from the Hong clan, who were struggling to climb up, with an expressionless face. He clenched his hand and the heavy ruler flashed and appeared. He strode forward and appeared beside a wounded expert Dou Huang from the Hong clan. Without saying anything, his ruler was swung as though he was hitting a ball.

“Crack!”

The heavy ruler slammed into the body of the Dou Huang, and he immediately flew backwards. The clear sounds of bones breaking

reverberated over the entire arena, causing many people to feel a chill in their hearts. They knew that with this swing of Xiao Yan's ruler, it was likely that the person would end up a cripple even if he recovered unless the Hong clan could take out a high tier medicinal pill to repair his bones.

Xiao Yan did not stop after crippling an expert from the Hong clan with his ruler. He turned his body while maintaining a cold and indifferent face before walking toward another expert from the Hong clan who had managed to survive the fire lotus explosion.

The eyes of this expert immediately revealed horror upon seeing Xiao Yan. He had just took out his weapon from his Storage Ring when a human figure flashed in front of him. The heavy ruler was swung and a 'chi' sound appeared. That person shot back like a rubber ball before landing on the ground a hundred meters away. No one knew if he was dead or alive.

The coldness on Xiao Yan's face became denser after having finished off another. He turned around and walked to the next injured expert from the Hong clan.

The entire place was silent as they watched Xiao Yan walked to the people from the Hong clan, sending person after person flying with the swing of a ruler without the slightest hesitation. A chill that was difficult to contain surged from their hearts as they watched the cold and indifferent face of Xiao Yan. This fellow might appear young, but his tactics were quite vicious. From the looks of his manner, it was clear that he wanted to truly cripple the Hong clan!

Han Chi's heart also pounded violently each time Xiao Yan's ruler was swung. Although he was shocked by Xiao Yan's vicious actions, it must be said that his actions were truly decisive!

After the matter today, Xiao Yan already knew that the Hong clan and him would definitely be in a situation where neither would rest until the other die. Since this was the case, he would naturally not leave the Hong clan with any strength to seek revenge on him. Xiao Yan would not show the slightest mercy against his enemies. Only by truly hitting the Han clan

at its core would he be able to cut off the need to worry about them in the future.

No one could be blamed for this matter. If one were really wanted to find someone to blame, then the Hong clan should be blamed for possessing killing intent toward him...

“Bang!”

The heavy ruler was once again violently swung at the last expert from the Hong clan. Xiao Yan did not care whether this person was dead or alive. He slowly turned his head and his gaze landed on a human figure a short distance away, who was struggling to stand up. That person was Hong Li.

At this moment, Hong Li's clothes were tattered. A vest that emitted a glow was faintly revealed under his clothes. Clearly, it was not an ordinary item. He had been able to survive the Angry Buddha Lotus Flame because of the protection of this inner vest.

A pair of vicious blood-red eyes were revealed under his scattered hair. Earlier, he had personally witnessed Xiao Yan sending all of the experts from the Hong clan, who had come, flying like rubber balls. From the looks of the heavy ruler's strength, it was likely that very few people would survive. This time around, the Hong clan had really suffered heavy losses!

“Xiao Yan, since you dare to kill the members of our Hong clan, our Hong clan will not rest until you die!”

Hong Li's finger quivered as it was pointed toward Xiao Yan while he viciously promised.

“Isn't that already the case?”

Xiao Yan smiled. His smile was filled with a coldness. He was just about to move to kill this Hong Li, when a low, deep muffled sound was suddenly transmitted from the other corner of the Sky Stone Stage.

Xiao Yan's gaze followed the noise and looked over. The cold smile on his face grew even denser. He saw Chen Yun being struck until blood seeped out from the corner of his mouth after another collision with the

Earth Demon Puppet. Although the Earth Demon Puppet did not know any Dou Techniques, just the attacks that its physical body could unleash were not much weaker than Dou Techniques.

If things continued in this manner, it was only a matter of time before Chen Yun perished to the hands of the Earth Demon Puppet. After all, the Earth Demon Puppet did not possess any impatience or negative emotions. Since Xiao Yan had given it the order to kill the person in front of it, it would swing its fist and smash them at that person even if it was about to die.

“These useless people from the Hong clan!”

Chen Yun’s face had become unusually gloomy after suffering some injuries in the fight. The corner of his eyes swiftly glanced at Xiao Yan, and he cursed in his heart. He roared out furiously, “Hong Li, why aren’t you calling Hong Tian Xiao? Does your Hong clan intend to be destroyed by him today?”

Hong Li was startled after hearing Chen Yun’s furious roar. His gaze viciously landed on Xiao Yan as he spoke in a dense manner, “Little bastard, you can forget about leaving in one piece now that you have killed the people from my Hong clan!”

Hong Li swiftly took out a blood-colored jade piece from his Storage Ring and violently shattered it the moment he uttered those words.

The jade piece had just been shattered when a human figure suddenly appeared in front of him. Hong Li hurriedly raised his head and saw a sinister face. He hurriedly retreated in his shock.

“Bang!”

The heavy ruler was waved, and it immediately carried a ear-piercing sonic boom as it violently slammed into Hong Li’s body. He spat out a mouthful of fresh blood. His body flew into the enormous pit like a meteorite. Finally, it smashed against a large rock. Rock fragments flew in all directions. Hong Li shook a couple of times before his body gradually became stiff.

“Xiao Yan, leave quickly. Hong Li has already sent a message to the ancestor of the Hong clan. He will arrive soon! That old fellow’s strength is a little stronger than even Chen Yun’s!” An anxious voice was quietly transmitted into Xiao Yan’s ear after he sent Hong Li flying with his ruler. Xiao Yan identified it as Han Chi’s voice.

Xiao Yan’s fist tightened. He inhaled a deep breath and cupped his hands toward the Han clan. The bone wings on his back were flapped as he swiftly launched into the sky. However, just as he was about to grab the Earth Demon Puppet, a majestic aura, that was filled with a furious killing intent, was suddenly transmitted from a corner of Tian Bei City. Immediately, a wrathful roar resounded in the sky above Tian Bei City.

“For daring to kill the members of my Hong clan, the old me will tear your corpse into tens of thousands of pieces and turn your bones into ashes today regardless of who you are!”

Chapter 969: Crazy Action

The raving roar that was filled with killing intent reverberated unceasingly over the sky of Tian Bei City like thunder, causing the entire city to be momentarily quiet. Numerous gazes that faintly carried some shock were shot in the direction the voice had originated.

The roar had naturally reached the Sky Stone Stage. Immediately, everyone emitted waves after waves of exclamations. Their gazes followed the direction the voice had originated in before finally pausing above the Hong clan household.

“It is actually Hong Tian Xiao. Unexpectedly, he has also been stirred this time around!”

“That Xiao Yan is likely going to be unlucky this time around. That Hong Tian Xiao is rumored to be a five star Dou Zong. His strength is even greater than Chen Yun from the Wind Lightning Pavilion. Although Xiao Yan has the help of the puppet, he will definitely be unable to resist the attacks of two elite Dou Zongs.”

Xiao Yan ignored the private conversations around him. His fist tightened slightly. If the Little Fairy Doctor had been here or if Tian Huo zun-zhe was awake, he would not need to be afraid of the ancestor of the Hong clan. Unfortunately, one of his two great helpers had been separated from him while the other was in slumber. Xiao Yan really had difficulty defeating two elite Dou Zongs by just relying on the Earth Demon Puppet unless he used the Angry Buddha Lotus Flame that was formed from three ‘Heavenly Flames.’ However, if he did that, he would definitely be weakened. This place was the territory of the Hong clan. Moreover, there was the existence of the Wind Lightning Pavilion five hundred kilometers away. It was clear that it would be disadvantageous for him if he got too entangled in this place.

“Looks like I can only withdraw first today...” This thought flashed through Xiao Yan’s heart. His gaze swiftly turned to the Earth Demon Puppet, who was fighting an intense battle with Hong Yun. His brows were

involuntarily knit together. That old fellow Chen Yun seemed to have already become aware of his intention. At this moment, he had suddenly gone all out to pester the Earth Demon Puppet, attempting to prevent it from being taken by Xiao Yan.

“You’re seeking death!”

Xiao Yan’s eyes became chilly when he saw the actions of Chen Yun. Aware of the sudden surge in killing intent within Xiao Yan’s heart, the body of the Earth Demon Puppet suddenly unleashed a glaring silver-colored glow. Its attacking speed suddenly increased as both its hands were like hammers which violently smashed toward Chen Yun, unleashing a frightening force.

Chen Yun’s expression also changed slightly upon sensing the sudden increase in the Earth Demon Puppet’s speed. He hurriedly maneuvered all the Dou Qi within his body. Despite this, his body trembled each time it collided with the Earth Demon Puppet. A numb feeling was being transmitted from his arm.

“Dammit. Just what is this puppet made off? Its physical strength is actually this terrifying!” Chen Yun’s heart involuntarily felt some shock as he sensed the pain that was transmitted from his arm.

“Xiao Yan, leave quickly. Don’t delay any longer. It will be too late if you delay any longer!”

Han Chi’s anxious voice was quietly transmitted over when Xiao Yan was controlling the Earth Demon Puppet, making it increase its attacking speed.

Xiao Yan merely shook his head when he heard Han Chi’s reminder. He sensed that he had been locked onto by an aura that was filled with killing intent. Even if he were to turn around and leave now, the other party would swiftly catch up with him.

A glow flickered in Xiao Yan’s eyes as his hand suddenly grabbed toward the enormous pit. A suction force surged and pulled Hong Li’s body from it. Xiao Yan grabbed his body and observed him. Immediately, Xiao Yan let out a cold laugh and said, “You really have quite a strong life. I am unable

to kill you even after all this. But, it's just as well..."

The eyelids of the unconscious Hong Li twitched upon hearing Xiao Yan's words. He wanted to open his eyes, but his serious injuries caused him to simply give up after a futile attempt.

The sharp sound of rushing wind resounded over the sky after Xiao Yan had grabbed Hong Li. Immediately, a vague figure wildly shot toward the Sky Stone Stage in a lightning-like manner. The dark and dense killing intent that spread out of the figure could be sensed despite the great distance apart.

"Brat, put Hong Li down. Otherwise, you'll die!"

That human figure saw the person whom Xiao Yan was grabbing with his hands from a great distance. Immediately, a furious roar was once again transmitted over.

Chen Yun, who was bitterly enduring, felt a joy in his heart upon hearing this roar. His peripheral sight glanced over and did indeed see Hong Tian Xiao's figure. He hurriedly cried out, "Old fellow Hong, the people from your Hong clan have all died to this brat's hand. Quickly kill him!"

"Bang!"

A silver glow suddenly broke Chen Yun's blockade when those words had just left his mouth and a fist violently smashed into his arm. Chen Yun let out a moan under this great strength landed. A thread of fresh blood seeped out of the corner of his mouth.

"Chen Yun?"

The light figure that had hurried over paused upon hearing Chen Yun's cry, revealing a red-clothed, yellow-faced, old man. He knit his brows and looked at the Earth Demon Puppet which was pestering Chen Yun. A solemnness also appeared in his eyes. With his eyesight, he was naturally able to tell that Chen Yun was being suppressed and defeated by the puppet.

"What are you looking for? This puppet is something that belongs to that brat. Once you restrain him, the puppet will naturally stop. Quickly

attack. Don't let that brat escape! Otherwise, the members of your Hong clan would have died for no reason!"

Chen Yun furiously cried out while Hong Tian Xiao was startled by the Earth Demon Puppet.

Hong Tian Xiao's sinister gaze slowly paused on Xiao Yan in the sky upon hearing Chen Yun's cry. He said in a dense manner, "Brat, obediently release Hong Li. The old me will let you have a quick death!"

Xiao Yan was expressionless. His gaze glanced at Chen Yun, who was being suppressed by the Earth Demon Puppet's attacks. From the looks of it, the puppet might be able to kill this old fellow if there was a little more time. Moreover, even if it was unable to truly kill him, it would definitely turn him into a seriously injured state!

Xiao Yan wanted to delay some time but Hong Tian Xiao would not give him the opportunity to do so. He had naturally been able to tell that Chen Yun would not be able to endure for long under the powerful puppet.

"Regardless of who your elders are, the old me will definitely not allow you to leave in one piece after you have killed so many people from my Hong clan!" Hong Tian Xiao sinisterly spoke. His body shook and it transformed into a light figure that rushed toward Xiao Yan. That stern killing intent caused a chillness to appear on the skin of quite a number of people.

Xiao Yan's eyes stared intently at Hong Tian Xiao, who had rushed over, before he suddenly let out a cold smile. His palm pressed on Hong Li's chest while grabbing his shoulders. After which, he used all his strength to violently toss Hong Li in a manner similar to throwing shot put.

"Old fellow, I have hid a hidden force within Hong Li's body. If you do not catch up to him and resolve it, he will definitely die once the hidden force explodes!" Xiao Yan laughed out loud after throwing Hong Li aside.

Chi!

The light figure that was wildly charging at Xiao Yan suddenly paused. Hong Tian Xiao gaze hesitated for a moment before he let out a furious

roar. He turned around and swiftly gave chase in the direction Hong Li had been thrown. Although his body had moved, another roar, that was filled with killing intent, was transmitted into Xiao Yan's ears.

“Brat, I will use the name of the ancestor of the Hong clan to swear that I will break all the bones in your body one at a time and let you taste what it's like being able to neither live nor die!”

Xiao Yan completely ignored Hong Tian Xiao's vicious roar. He had really heard too many similar threats. However, no one had managed to realize them even today.

Hong Tian Xiao had just turned around when Xiao Yan's sinister gaze suddenly shot toward Chen Yun. The corner of his mouth was lifted into a dark and cold arc as his hand seals suddenly flew. Powerful Dou Qi was swiftly agglomerated.

Chen Yun's heart suddenly sank when he sensed Xiao Yan's actions. He was already barely able to face the Earth Demon Puppet's attack. If Xiao Yan were to join in at this moment, it was likely that his fate would be a terrible one.

“This old bastard, so what if that fellow dies? He is just a trash, what need is there to rescue him?” Chen Yun could only furiously curse Hong Tian Xiao in his heart while he panicked. He had similarly not expect that in the face of two elite Dou Zong revealing themselves, Xiao Yan did not choose to immediately flee. Instead, he had diverted one of them away and focused his strength on dealing with the other. This kind of all out tactic was a crazy one!

“Bang!”

Another punch with frightening strength was violently sent flying over, and scattered the majestic Dou Qi in front of Chen Yun, shaking him until he continued to step back.

A feeling of danger rose within Chen Yun's heart as his footsteps hurried back. The corner of his eyes drifted and one could only see a vague figure appearing behind him. A palm-sized crystal energy handprint had quietly appeared where the figure's hand was located. The energy that was

contained in it caused Chen Yun's face to change.

"Sea Flipping Seal!"

Xiao Yan cried out furiously in his heart. The hand seal was swung out in a lightning-like manner, and struck at a fatal point on Chen Yun's back.

Chen Yun's face became exceptionally ugly as he sensed the attack that came from behind him. If this had occurred at a normal time, it was definitely not difficult for him to dodge. However, at this moment, the Earth Demon Puppet's fist wind had sealed off the space around him. He was unable to use his agility Dou Skills. All he could do was clench his teeth and swiftly turn around. A majestic waterfall like Dou Qi shot out from both his hands.

"Bang!"

The majestic Dou Qi and the Seal Flipping Seal fiercely collided. Xiao Yan's body shook and he hurriedly withdrew over a dozen steps. On the other hand, Chen Yun merely withdrew one step. However, his already pale face grew even paler.

"Chi!"

Chen Yun had yet to have the time to relax after having taken a step back when a wild and violent strength, that caused his expression to change, appeared in a lightning-like manner behind him. After which, it ruthlessly struck his shoulders.

"Grug!"

Chen Yun was finally unable to endure any longer after suffering this heavy blow. A mouthful of fresh red blood was spat out. His body rubbed against the ground, forming a scar that was dozens of meters long.

The Earth Demon Puppet continued to rush over after Chen Yun's body had just withdrawn. It grabbed Chen Yun's arm and broke the finger he wore his Storage Ring on in front of a countless number of shocked gazes.

The Earth Demon Puppet held the broken finger tightly and ceased launching any attacks. Instead, it swiftly rushed to where Xiao Yan was

located. Finally, Xiao Yan stored it into his Storage Ring with a wave of his hand. The Storage Ring that was removed from Chen Yun's finger also fell into his hand.

"Ha ha, thank you for your gift Elder Chen!"

Xiao Yan held the Storage Ring and laughed out loud. His gaze glanced at the northern sky. There was a furious aura wildly hurrying over from that direction.

"Have you discovered something missing..."

A cold laugh sounded as Xiao Yan swiftly spread the bone wings behind him. With a flap of the bone wings, he rose into the sky, and left.

"Little bastard, my Wind Lightning Pavilion will not cease chasing you until you die!"

Chen Yun forcefully endured the intense pain that was transmitted from his finger. Both of his eyes were blood-red as his teeth violently bit the tip of his tongue. Some essence blood was spat out. The blood had a faint lightning glow lingering within it. With a vicious glance at Xiao Yan, he waved his hand and the essence blood lightning glow was divided into two. One of them penetrated shot toward Xiao Yan while the other flew toward the southern sky.

The essence blood that came flashing over shocked Xiao Yan. He extended his wings and his body rose to the sky in a lightning-like manner. However, the essence blood lightning glow was unusually fast. With a flash, it shot into Xiao Yan's body.

The essence blood lightning glow did not do anything to cause the slightest discomfort to Xiao Yan when it entered his body. He frowned a little while the vicious voice of Chen Yun was once again transmitted over.

"You have been hit with the blood lightning seal of my Wind Lightning Pavilion. My Wind Lightning Pavilion will be able to find you no matter where you run off. Little bastard, I want to see just where you can hide!"

"I will accompany you until the end!"

Xiao Yan laughed coldly upon hearing Chen Yun's words. His gaze paused for an instant on the members of the Han clan. After which, he flapped his bone wings, and transformed into a light figure, that swiftly fled to the sky above Tian Bei City, before disappearing in the blink of an eye...

Chapter 970: Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body

A ray of light suddenly blazed across the completely cloudless azure sky in an extremely quick manner. The figure's eyes swept the distant sky before taking a glance behind him. Only then did the figure slow and mutter, "By unleashing the bone wing's ability to its limit, it is likely that even Hong Tian Xiao would be unable to catch up. Moreover, Chen Yun has been injured by both the Earth Demon Puppet and me. At the very least, he will not be able to give chase within a short period of time. Thus, he need not be overly afraid. As long as that old fellow chased him alone, he would let him try the strength of the Earth Demon Puppet!"

Xiao Yan's figure once again slowed as this thought flashed through his heart. He turned his body and looked in the distant direction of Tian Bei City. However, not a single figure appeared even after a while. Immediately, he shook his head. This old fellow was indeed cautious. He was able to maintain his rational disposition despite being so furious. It seemed that this old fellow did indeed possess great combat experience.

"Since he is not giving chase now, it is likely that he is waiting for Chen Yun to recover. That fellow is someone from the Wind Lightning Pavilion. He likely has access to a lot of healing medicinal pills. With his injuries, it is likely he will recover after a short period of time. Now, the most important thing is to undo the so-called Blood Lightning Seal that the old fellow planted in my body. Otherwise, my situation will be a bad one once the experts from the Wind Lightning Pavilion hurry over."

Xiao Yan swiftly made up this mind as this thought appeared. His gaze swept around him before he flapped his bone wings, and transformed into a ray of light that rushed toward a mountain range in the distance. It was likely that no one understood the thoughts within his heart.

Xiao Yan found a remote location within the mountain range and forcefully created a cave. After which, he used an enormous rock to block the entrance. The anxious Xiao Yan finally exhaled and relaxed when

warm light from a Moonlight Rock scattered over the interior of the cave.

“I miscalculated. It is unexpected that the Wind Lightning Pavilion is so concerned about the Three Thousand Lightning Movement. Logically speaking, although the Three Thousand Lightning Movement is profound, it is merely at the Di Class Low Level.. There was no reason for this Wind Lightning Pavilion to treat an agility Dou Technique of this class as a treasure that no one can touch...” Xiao Yan sat cross-legged, rubbed his forehead, and bitterly laughed.

“Today, I have completely offended the Wind Lightning Pavilion, but I am not afraid. The Central Plains region is massive. Would I be afraid of not having anywhere to go? I don’t believe that your Wind Lightning Pavilion’s strength can spread across the entire Central Plains region.”

Xiao Yan’s face revealed an expression of deep thought. He immediately spread his palm and revealed a silver-white-colored Storage Ring. The Storage Ring still contained some fresh blood on it. It was the thing the Earth Demon Puppet had snatched from Chen Yun’s finger earlier.

Xiao Yan’s Spiritual Strength spread out. However, the silver-white Storage Ring emitted a resistance when his Spiritual Strength made contact with it, reflecting his Spiritual Strength back.

“Has a spiritual imprint been placed on it?” Xiao Yan coldly laughed as he sensed the resistance from the Storage Ring. Spiritual Strength was one of his fortes. Though his actual level was much lower than Chen Yun’s level, his Spiritual Strength was not weaker. It was not impossible for Xiao Yan to break the spiritual imprint that Chen Yun had left behind.

Xiao Yan gently inhaled a breath of air. His Spiritual Strength controlled the silver-white-colored Storage Ring, which slowly surfaced in front of him. His eyes suddenly opened and a majestic Spiritual Strength surged from between his brows like floodwater. It violently struck the Storage Ring.

“Clang!”

An invisible ripple suddenly surged out of the Storage Ring the moment they collided. Finally, the ripple violently rammed the mountain wall. For a

moment, the mountain cave trembled while fist-sized crack lines began to appear.

Xiao Yan ignored the changes in the cave as his gaze stared firmly at the trembling Storage Ring. Spiritual Strength surged out unceasingly. Finally, wave after wave struck at the spiritual imprint within the Storage Ring.

The spiritual imprint that an elite Dou Zong had placed was indeed extremely strong. Regardless of what happened, however, it was merely an imprint. If the actual owner was located near this place, he would at least be able to control it from a distance. However, Chen Yun was currently rushing to heal himself. Where would he find the time to bother about the change of this spiritual imprint.

The unceasing assault of Spiritual Strength continued for a couple of minutes before a slight cracking sound finally appeared in the cave.

Joy instantly surged into Xiao Yan's eyes when he heard this noise. He had finally removed the spiritual imprint of that old fellow...

Chen Yun, who was seated cross-legged on the Sky Stone Stage in Tian Bei City, suddenly opened his tightly shut eyes when the spiritual imprint was broken. His eyes revealed a savage expression as he roared furiously, "Xiao Yan, the old me swears that I won't be human if I don't kill you!"

Most of the people had already left the Sky Stone Stage at this moment. After all, everyone could see that Hong Tian Xiao and Chen Yun were extremely furious at the moment. No one could tell whether they would be innocently implicated under the fury of these two old fellows.

"What are you roaring for instead of quickly recuperating?" Hong Tian Xiao protecting Chen Yun by the side frowned and asked in a deep voice when he saw Chen Yun act in this manner.

"The spiritual imprint in my Storage Ring has already been broken by that little bastard!" Chen Yun grit his teeth and replied.

Hong Tian Xiao was startled upon hearing this. His face immediately changed a little as he said, "That brat only has the strength of a Dou Huang. How could he break your spiritual imprint? Although that puppet

is strong, it clearly does not possess any Spiritual Strength.”

“I don’t know.” Chen Yun shook his head with a gloomy face. He said in a dense voice, “Once I have fully recuperated, we will leave together. That brat has the Blood Lightning Seal that I planted in his body. He cannot escape!”

“Relax, he has killed many people from my Hong clan. The old me will ensure that his ending won’t be good.” Hong Tian Xiao ferociously responded.

“I have already dispatched news to the Wind Lightning Pavilion. It is likely that some experts will hurry over soon. At that time, that brat will have difficulty escaping!” Chen Yun glanced at his hand with one missing finger. The viciousness on his face was so dense that it caused a chill to rise in one’s heart.

Xiao Yan shut his eyes slightly as he sat in the cave, which was filled with warm light. A silver-white-colored ring in front of him was emitting a weak glow. A moment later, the glow slowly weakened and Xiao Yan gradually opened his eyes.

A silver-colored scroll appeared in his hand when he opened his eyes.

This silver-colored scroll was a little larger than an ordinary one. Its entire body was bright-silver. However, if one were to look at it carefully, one would discover that there were densely packed tiny red lines on it. They were just like veins that spread to every part of the scroll.

Xiao Yan’s eyes looked at this scroll and his heart had unknowingly increased his pulse rate. This was the only somewhat strange item he had found within Chen Yun’s Storage Ring.

“What is this?”

Xiao Yan muttered somewhat doubtfully. He did not open it because of the strangeness of this thing. Instead, he had extended his hand and summoned the Earth Demon Puppet. He tossed the scroll to the latter. “Open it.”

The Earth Demon Puppet receive the scroll. Its hand slowly opened it

without any hesitation.

“Boom!”

The silver glow on the scroll suddenly soared after it had been opened. Immediately, a furious thunder-like explosion sounded and a thigh-thick lightningbolt shot out. It violently smashed into the chest of the Earth Demon Puppet. The powerful strength sent it flying like a cannon ball before smashing heavily into a wall. Cracks swiftly spread on the rock wall behind the puppet before they finally cracked apart with a ‘bang.’

“There is indeed something strange...” Xiao Yan coldly laughed when he saw this. If he had been the one who had received that attack, he would have been seriously injured due to his lack of defense. Fortunately, the Earth Demon Puppet had a strong physical body, and was able to receive the attack in a relaxed manner.

The silver scroll slowly floated in the air after having unleashed its lightning. However, there was still a lightning glow flickering on it.

Xiao Yan’s eyes drifted over it as he beckoned with his hand. The scroll slowly descended. When it was falling, the Dou Qi in Xiao Yan’s body surged and the Glazed Lotus Heart Flame transformed into a flame that wrapped around his body.

The scroll did not display any unusual signs in the face of the fully armed Xiao Yan this time around. It quietly lay in his hand. Lightning flickered. It appeared like silver snakes swimming around, giving the scroll an extraordinary appearance.

Xiao Yan sighed in relief after seeing no unusual changes in the scroll. His gaze landed on the scroll, and a couple of large words that were formed by the lightning glow appeared in his sight.

Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body. The most prized treasure of the Wind Lightning Pavilion. It was rumored to be a Dou Technique passed down from the ancient times, Di Class High Level. Once this skill is mastered, it is possible to form a lightning illusionary body. The lightning illusionary body has a similar strength to the actual body. As long as the actual body does not die, the illusionary body will not be

destroyed. This god-like effect could be described in four words—comparable to Tian Class!

Just a short line of words caused a great storm to immediately stir within Xiao Yan's heart. An avatar with a strength similar to the actual body? Moreover, the avatar would not be destroyed as long as the actual body did not die? If this was really the case, was this so-called Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body not a little too terrifying. The description of it being comparable to Tian class was not an overstatement!

“It is unexpected that the Wind Lightning Pavilion actually possesses such a treasure. No wonder it is so strong. As long as one successfully practices it, a Dou Zun would be equivalent to two Dou Zun. When fighting with others, it would be two against one. What kind of person within the same level could defeat two equivalent enemies?” Xiao Yan's eyes became boiling hot as his gaze swiftly shifted a little.

Behind this line of lightning glow words were some dimmer words. Clearly, this had been added by other people.

“The Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body might be frightening, but it is unusually difficult to practice. One of the requirements is that one must master the Three Thousand Lightning Movement until the highest level. During these many years, there have only been a few people throughout the Wind Lightning Pavilion who have successfully mastered it. The old me has studied it for dozens of years, but has obtained little from it. It seems that it will be hopeless in my lifetime...”

“Three Thousand Lightning Movement?” Xiao Yan involuntarily inhaled a cool breath when he read until this point. He finally understood the reason Chen Yun was so deeply affected when he saw Xiao Yan display Three Thousand Lightning Movement. This thing was actually related to the most prized treasure of the Wind Lightning Pavilion.

“Hee hee, I must thank that old fellow. Otherwise, I would not be aware of such a secretive thing. Now that the Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body has landed in my hands, I will see just how difficult it is to practice it!”

Xiao Yan laughed quietly before shutting his eyes. His Spiritual Strength invaded the silver-colored scroll that was emitting a lightning glow.

Chapter 971: Incomplete Scroll

The place that appeared in front of Xiao Yan was a lightning world. Unimaginable numbers of thunderbolts came smashing down from the empty sky like a waterfall. They carried a soul-stirring bang along with a rich Heaven's Might.

Xiao Yan's Spiritual Strength had just appeared in this lightning world when the numerous tilting lightning bolts seemed to have sensed him. With a 'chi la' sound, they cut through the air and suddenly emitted a glow, covering the entire sky.

Xiao Yan's brows were slightly knit in the face of these lightningbolts that had been shot in all directions. He knew that these were not genuine bolts of lightning, but were instead things created from Spiritual Strength that had been left within the scroll. This caused him to feel some joy.

"Scatter!"

With a tap of his finger in the empty sky, a powerful Spiritual Strength materialized where his finger had pressed, erupting out in an unceasing manner.

The countless numbers of lightning bolts, that came rushing over, immediately crumbled wherever the Spiritual Strength moved. The lightning transforming into silver-colored light spots, that permeated the sky, before slowly turning into nothing.

Xiao Yan broke the remnant Spiritual Strength within the scroll with his finger before he slowly swept his gaze around. The entire place was filled with a glaring silver color. Below was an extremely large silver lake. Lightning swam all over the lake like silver snakes, giving it the appearance of an electric pond.

There was nothing else present in this place other than the electric pond below. It was also void of any information related to the so-called Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body.

Xiao Yan's gaze scanned this space an inch at a time before it finally

paused on the electric pond below. His brows were bunched up. After musing for a moment, he once again pressed gently into the electric pond.

Powerful Spiritual Strength swiftly surged down and finally swept through the electric pond. The lightning glow that lingered above swiftly scattered. Following the scattering of the lightning glow, the lake gradually became as clear as a mirror.

Xiao Yan's eyes were focused on the electric pond, which had turned clear. A moment later, a slight ripple quietly rose on its surface. Numerous words formed from the lightning glow wherever the ripple reached.

Xiao Yan stood high in the air and looked down. He was coincidentally able to clearly read these words made out of lightning. Joy surged into his eyes. He focused his mind as his eyes carefully swept over those words, firmly remembering them in his mind.

There were not many words formed from lightning glow on the surface of the lake. After around ten minutes or so, they Xiao Yan had commit them to memory. However, when Xiao Yan began to organize and practice it within his heart, he ended up knitting his brows tightly once again.

According to Xiao Yan's guess, the information was indeed related to the method of practicing the Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body. However, the sequence was completely chaotic. One could not gain the slightest clue from reading it.

"Chen Yun possessed quite a high position within the Wind Lightning Pavilion. He should not be in possession of a fake Dou Technique, but why is it that I cannot see any of the training methods for it? Moreover, if I look at it carefully, I seem to feel that there are many things missing." Xiao Yan softly muttered.

Xiao Yan mused for a moment before once again shutting his eyes. He began to slowly organize the chaotic information within his mind. This organizational process continued for nearly an hour...

By the time Xiao Yan opened his eyes again, the doubt within them had already disappeared. After this long period of study, he had indeed discovered some problems. This was indeed the training method for the

Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body. However, it was incomplete. It was merely a portion of the entirety. The feeling of it possessing a defect had originated from this earlier.

“The Three Thousand Lightning Movement has already been divided into a few portions. This Chen Yun possessed only one of them. How regretful...” Xiao Yan sighed somewhat gloomily. However, he felt that it was normal after thinking about it. Being the most prized treasure in the Wind Lightning Pavilion, how could this Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body be placed in the hands of an Elder. Placing them separately was the safest method.

“I wonder where the remaining portions are. If I have the chance, I will definitely gather all of them. If I am able to successfully master this Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body, it will definitely be a great help in the future.” Xiao Yan gently sighed. He once again glanced at this lightning world and shook his head. His body gradually became pale and disappeared a moment later.

Following Xiao Yan’s disappearance, this lightning world once again became rampant with a wild violence.

Xiao Yan slowly opened his eyes within the cave. He looked at the bright-silver-colored scroll in his hand and involuntarily laughed. It was not easy to obtain a Di Class High Level Dou Technique. However, it was fortunate that he had not gained nothing. At the very least, he had obtained a portion of the method to practice the Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body. According to his guess, the remaining portions should be in the hands of the other Elders from the Wind Lightning Pavilion. If he had the opportunity in the future, he might be able to think of a way to get them.

After softly laughing, Xiao Yan stored the silver-colored scroll into the Serene Sea Ring. After which, he shifted his mind away from it. Currently, the most important thing was to remove the so-called Blood Lightning Seal in his body. Otherwise, it would really be as Chen Yun had said. With this thing as a beacon, he would be sensed no matter where he was.

Xiao Yan exhaled gently and swiftly entered his training state. His mind sank into his body and began to scan every inch of it.

However, Xiao Yan was stunned to discover that there was nothing unusual within his body after the scan finished. There was not the slightest trace of the Blood Lightning Seal.

“It is impossible for it not to exist. I personally witnessed that thing enter my body...” Xiao Yan muttered. A thought immediately passed through his mind and the Glazed Lotus Heart Flame followed his veins, and was slowly circulated. Finally, it erupted and spread throughout every part of his body.

The flame burned fiercely within his body. A moment later, Xiao Yan finally sensed an unusual feeling being transmitted over. His mind moved and appeared at the spot where the unusual feeling had originated from.

The spot where the unusual feeling was transmitted from was an isolated place. However, it was still found with the full search conducted by the Glazed Lotus Heart Flame. At this moment, there was a tiny scarlet-silver imprint on this vein. A vague weak glow was flickering as the flame burned.

“It has indeed hid itself very deep. If not for the strength of the ‘Heavenly Flame,’ it is likely that I would have difficulty finding it.” Xiao Yan looked at this scarlet-silver-colored seal and coldly laughed. He could sense that this trace of seal contained a strange energy. Xiao Yan was not unfamiliar with this kind of energy. When he was practicing the Three Thousand Lightning Movement back then, he had also absorbed a thread of this kind of Wind Lightning Strength from the wind and thunder...

This kind of energy was a little stronger than an ordinary Dou Technique. If an ordinary person were planted with such a seal, it was natural that he would not dare to forcefully remove it because the Wind Lightning Strength would cause a lot of damage to the internal parts of one’s body should it explode. However, it was fortunate that despite the Wind Lightning Strength being troublesome, the strength of the ‘Heavenly Flame’ was even more troublesome and strange!

A cluster of jade-green flames swiftly spread out as a thought passed through his mind. After which, it wrapped the seal and the vein within it. A frighteningly high temperature immediately permeated the place.

Due to the Glazed Lotus Heart Flame having been completely refined by Xiao Yan, this kind of high temperature would not harm him, and it would cause his veins to feel a warm comfortable feeling. On the other hand, that blood lightning seal had become a little distorted under the high temperature. Threads of blood colored energy gradually turned into nothingness as the high temperature penetrated it...

“This Blood Lightning Seal does indeed possess a strangeness. Even the ‘Heavenly Flame’ required a good amount of time in order to remove it. However, this is because my strength is a little weak. Looks like I should raise my strength as soon as possible. Perhaps I should also consume a Mighty Huang Pill...” Xiao Yan muttered to himself. He studied the Blood Lightning Seal as it gradually turned paler within the ‘Heavenly Flame.’

The Mighty Huang Pill was a high tier medicinal pill that was only effective to an expert Dou Huang. An expert Dou Huang would have the chance to raise his strength by one or even two stars if he consumed it. However, a person could only consume such a medicinal pill once. After which, it would lose its effect. Fortunately, Xiao Yan had never consumed one. However, the current situation was one where he might have to rely on this thing...

“Once I have removed this Blood Lightning Seal, I will find another safe place to consume the medicinal pill and raise my strength in an attempt to quickly breakthrough to the Dou Zong class. The strength of a Dou Huang is far from sufficient to roam the Central Plains!”

Xiao Yan made up his mind and hurriedly focused his attention, urging the ‘Heavenly Flame to swiftly refine the Blood Lightning Seal.

This refinement continued for around two hours before the Blood Lightning Seal turned into a cluster of blood-colored fog that was finally vaporized into nothingness under the grilling of the flame.

Xiao Yan slowly opened his eyes when the Blood Lightning Seal

completely disappeared. He sighed in relief, appearing to have released a heavy burden as he said, "I have finally settled this... now, it is time for me to leave!"

Xiao Yan stood up from the ground and tidied himself. After which, he returned the Earth Demon Puppet to his Storage Ring and walked swiftly to the entrance of the cave. Just as he was about to open the enormous rockdoor at the entrance of the cave, a rumbling loud voice was suddenly transmitted from outside. The intense trembling caused the interior of the cave to become shaky.

"Xiao Yan, come out!"

Just when Xiao Yan was stunned by this unexpected change, a furious roar reverberated over the mountain range like thunder!

"Chen Yun? He has actually chased me to this place..."

Xiao Yan's expression instantly became ugly when he heard the roar from outside. It was unexpected that the old fellow hated him to such an extent. He had actually followed him within such a short period of time. Since Chen Yun dared to give chase, it was likely that Hong Tian Xiao had also arrived. If Xiao Yan did not use some true skill when facing two elite Dou Zongs, it was likely that the matter today would not end well.

Xiao Yan inhaled a deep breath. A ruthless expression also flashed within his eyes. These two old fellows were pressing him. As the saying went, a rabbit would also bite someone in its anxiety, much less Xiao Yan, who was a fierce wolf with sharp teeth.

"Hee hee, little fellow, it is unexpected that the old me has found you in such a miserable setting when I woke up. It is really a blessing to my eyes..."

When Xiao Yan was planning to go all out in his heart, an elderly teasing laughter suddenly sounded within his heart without any forewarning.

"Old Mister Yao?"

Xiao Yan exclaimed when he heard this familiar laughter. A joy that was difficult to hide surged into his eyes.

Chapter 972: Monstrous Aura

Over a dozen figures were suspended in the azure sky. They were all scattered and their gazes were carefully scanning the mountain range below. These were all people who had come chasing after Xiao Yan. Each of them carried an incomparable anger and killing intent. However, they were unaware of just what Xiao Yan was thinking at this moment.

“Chen Yun, didn’t you say that that brat had been struck by your Blood Lightning Seal? You should be able to detect his exact spot. Where is he?” A red-clothed, yellow-faced, old man finally turned his head furiously demanded information from the gray-clothed, old man beside him after failing to find any traces despite having searched for awhile.

Chen Yun’s expression was a little gloomy at this moment. He had sensed that his connection with the Blood Lightning Seal was weakening on his way here, especially when he had just entered the area around the mountain range. That connection had been completely broken at that moment. Hence, he could only rely on the route transmitted by the slight connection earlier to search. However, it was a futile effort despite having spent such a long time.

“I don’t know just what method that brat used to remove the Blood Lightning Seal that I left in his body.” Chen Yun gloomily replied. Honestly speaking, he was feeling extremely shocked at this moment. The difficulty involved in removing the Blood Lightning Seal was something that he understood extremely well. However, it had been dispelled within less than half a day. This was the first time that he had been met with such an occurrence in all his years.

“Didn’t you have great confidence in your Blood Lightning Seal? If I knew that this would be the case, the old me would have directly given chase!” Hong Tian Xiao became furious upon hearing this. If they were to lose the connection, how would they find that brat after he had fled a great distance?

“What are you roaring for? You give chase? Hmph. Would you not have

long since given chase if you had not been afraid of the puppet in that brat's hand?" Chen Yun frowned and spoke in a somewhat irritated manner.

"You... you are speaking nonsense. Would the old me be afraid of that brat's puppet?" Hong Tian Xiao furiously cried out.

"Once we find him, you can go and deal with that puppet..." Chen Yun coldly laughed. He immediately waved his hand and a deep voice sounded, "All of you should head down and search the place an inch at a time. That brat is definitely still in this mountain range. I don't believe that he can flee under my eyes."

The dozen experts in the sky were startled for a moment upon hearing Chen Yun's orders before they turned their gazes to Hong Tian Xiao. They were the people invited by the Hong clan. Naturally, they needed to hear Hong Tian Xiao's instruction.

"Do as he said." Hong Tian Xiao swung his sleeves and commanded them.

"Understood!"

The dozen plus invited helpers from the Hong clan finally cupped their hands and spread out after hearing the order. They slowly descended, formed a fan shape, and began searching the mountain range.

Two human figures quietly flashed and appeared within a lush green forest behind Hong Tian Xiao's group while they were searching for Xiao Yan. The lady among them was surprisingly Han Xue. Standing beside her was a white-clothed old man with a bitter smile. The old man's gaze passed through the gap between the branches and looked at Chen Yun's group in the distant sky. A solemn expression flashed in his eyes.

"Great-grandfather, will they find Xiao Yan?" Han Xue's searing hot eyes looked at the invited helpers of the Hong clan as they searched the place carefully before involuntarily asking in a concerned manner.

"Ugh, girl, although the old me was unable to endure your tantrum and ended up bringing you over to take a look, I will still say some ugly words

first. If any situation occurs when the time comes, I will try my best to lend a hand on the precondition that no one will discover my identity. You should understand great-grandfather. It is fine if it was just that Hong Tian Xiao. However, Chen Yun is a member of the Wind Lightning Pavilion. Our Han clan cannot offend that kind of faction..." The white-clothed, old man sighed as he spoke with a somewhat solemn face.

"I have taken the risk to bring you over mainly because that little fellow helped our Han clan. The old me does not like to owe another a favor. Otherwise, regardless of how nice you put it, I will not treat a big matter like offending the Wind Lightning Pavilion as child's play."

Han Xue gently bit her lower red lip with the back of her teeth as she quietly nodded. She softly said, "Xue-er knows her limits. At... at that time, great-grandfather should intervene based on the situation... if it is not possible, then just leave..." Her round eyes had immediately become much redder at the end of her words.

The white-clothed, old man once again laughed bitterly when he saw this manner of hers. He rubbed Han Xue's smooth black hair and sighed, "Ugh, by being able to make my little grand-daughter act like this, this little fellow called Xiao Yan really does have some skill..."

Han Xue's pretty face revealed embarrassment when she heard his words. She was just about to speak when a 'bang' sounded in the distant mountain range. Upon the sounding of the explosion, numerous whistling sounds began to be transmitted from the distance. One could even hear a faint cry of "he is here."

"Has he been discovered?"

Han Xue's hands were tightly clenched.

"Brat, I thought that you had wished to hide for an entire lifetime!"

Chen Yun spoke with ridicule. His figure was suspended in the sky as his sinister gaze looked at the young man who was slowly walking out of a cave.

"There are really quite a lot of people who have come. Looks like Elder

Chen really hates me...” Xiao Yan’s gaze swept over the sky around him. Finally, they paused on Hong Tian Xiao’s body while he spoke with a smile.

“Once you land in my hands, you will clearly experience the hatred of the old me.” Chen Yun viciously spoke. The faint pain that was being transmitted from his hand was just like a thorn ruthlessly piercing into his heart. That humiliation caused the killing intent in his heart to surge.

“Brat, this time around, the old me wants to see just how you will be able to flee! I have promised my nephew that I will break all your limbs and bring you to him.” Hong Tian Xiao’s gaze revealed a fierce glow as he stared at Xiao Yan. His sinister voice caused the surrounding helpers invited by the Hong clan to feel a chill in their hearts.

Xiao Yan lips curled. However, this smile of his contained a frosty chill.

“Looks like the two of you really wish to render me dead and will definitely not give up. In that cause... allow me to take both of your lives...”

Hong Tian Xiao immediately laughed upon seeing the smile on Xiao Yan’s face. He mocked, “Arrogant young man. Do you really think that a puppet can save your life?”

The smile on Xiao Yan’s face involuntarily became a little stranger when he heard this. He flicked his finger and a silver glow flashed. The Earth Demon Puppet also surfaced in front of him.

Seeing the appearance of this Earth Demon Puppet, the helpers of the Han clan in the sky hurriedly withdrew a little. They were also extremely terrified of this fierce puppet, which had broken off one of Chen Yun’s finger.

Hong Tian Xiao’s eyes also solidified slightly when the Earth Demon Puppet appeared. His face became slightly solemn. The troublesomeness of this puppet was something that he was also clearly aware of.

“Hong Tian Xiao, since you said those words earlier, we’ll leave this puppet to you. Leave that brat to me to deal with.” Chen Yun’s eyes also flickered slightly as they stared at the Earth Demon Puppet. There was a

faint fear within them. Finally, he turned his head and spoke to Hong Tian Xiao.

Hong Tian Xiao's face immediately twitched a little upon hearing these words. He inhaled a deep breath of air and coldly laughed, "Leave it to the old me. You, on the other hand, should finish that brat off as soon as possible."

"Relax, this time around, the old me will let him know that offending the Wind Lightning Pavilion was his greatest mistake!" Chen Yun's gaze looked at Xiao Yan in a savage manner as he spoke in a dense voice.

Xiao Yan merely smiled in the face of these two old fellows ill intent. His finger gently rubbed the snow-white ring without leaving a trace. After which, he suddenly pointed at Hong Tian Xiao and softly said, "Kill him!"

The Earth Demon Puppet in front of him stomped heavily on the ground just after Xiao Yan's voice had sounded. The mountain rocks cracked and the Earth Demon Puppet's body shot toward the sky like a fire arrow. It violently flew toward Hong Tian Xiao.

"Hmph, allow the old me to see just how great is this puppet!"

Hong Tian Xiao coldly laughed when he saw the Earth Demon Puppet coming at him with a fierce momentum. Fiery-red Dou Qi surged out of his body like a flame in all directions. His hand was clenched and a two-meter-long scimitar appeared in his hand. The scimitar emitted a hot force when it was swung and violently hacked at the Earth Demon Puppet.

"Clang!"

The scimitar hacked at the Earth Demon Puppet's shoulder. However, only some sparks were created. A white scar also appeared where the blade landed.

"What a hard body."

Hong Tian Xiao was slightly startled when he saw this. He tightly regripped the scimitar. He then collided head-on with the Earth Demon Puppet, and an intense big battle erupted.

Chen Yun slowly lowered his body while Hong Tian Xiao was pestering the Earth Demon Puppet. He remained suspended in the sky just in front of Xiao Yan. His dried face revealed a frightening smile as he slowly spoke in a dense voice.

“Brat, you have broken off a finger of mine. Later, I will completely cripple all ten fingers of yours!”

Xiao Yan smiled faintly. His feet stomped on the ground as his body rose. A short while later, he drifted and landed on a large tree.

Chen Yun’s hands were merely placed behind him as he watched Xiao Yan’s actions. His eyes revealed ridicule as he watched Xiao Yan move. From the way he saw it, Xiao Yan was merely a mouse struggling before it died in this situation. Moreover, he was the cat playing with the mouse... however, this was merely his wishful thinking.

Xiao Yan completely ignored the ridicule in Chen Yun’s eyes. His hands were slowly spread apart as he gradually shut his eyes. A soft mutter sounded within his heart.

“Old mister Yao, please temporarily lend your strength to me...”

A soft mutter slowly sounded. A moment later, the snow-white ring on Xiao Yan’s finger shook gently. Immediately, an extremely majestic and vast Spiritual Strength moved along Xiao Yan’s arm, wildly surging into him in a flood like manner!

With the pouring of the majestic Spiritual Strength into Xiao Yan’s body, the space around him had suddenly, but slowly become distorted. A monstrous aura that was like an awakened emperor that dominated this world!

Chen Yun, those helpers from the Hong clan around and even Hong Tian Xiao, who was fighting the Earth Demon Puppet, felt a momentary dullness within their heads the instant this monstrous aura appeared. Immediately, shock that was difficult to restrain surged from deep within their hearts in a manner similar to wild grass.

Chapter 973: Killing Chen Yun

The majestic aura rippled around Xiao Yan's body while the entire mountain range trembled under this frightening aura. Occasionally, a trembling whimper-like roar sounded softly within the mountain forest. The roar contained a terrified feeling within it.

With the powerful Spiritual Strength within Xiao Yan's body, his toes slowly left the treetop. He was suspended in the empty air in the sky. Perhaps it was because of his body being filled with too much Spiritual Strength, but a silver-white color gradually surfaced in his eyes. This silver-white color became denser until his eyes basically radiated this color. Looking from a distance, his original black eyes had transformed into a pair of silver-white eyes that appeared extremely cold.

The rising aura continued for a moment before it came to a slow stop. Xiao Yan lowered his head slightly and looked at Chen Yun, whose expression had drastically changed. He slowly asked, "Aren't you planning on crippling my ten fingers?"

The voice was not loud, but it possessed a pressure that seemed to unroll from his spirit, causing Chen Yun's spirit to tremble as a result.

"What has this brat done? Why is it that he has suddenly become so strong? Looking at this aura, it is likely that he has the strength of a seven star or even eight star Dou Zong. Is this real or not?" Chen Yun's expression changed rapidly. The majestic aura that had unfurled from Xiao Yan's body had indeed caused him to be shocked and filled with disbelief. He was certain that Xiao Yan's actual strength should be at the Dou Huang class. However, his strength had shot up like a burning arrow in a sudden manner and reached such a frightening level. From the way he saw it, this was a ridiculous thing.

Doubt flashed across Chen Yun's heart. He really had difficulty believing that Xiao Yan could increase so many levels within such a short period of time.

"Regardless of how the grade of a Secret Technique is, it would likely be

difficult for it to possess such a frightening effect... could the strength of this Dou Qi be only superficial?" Chen Yun's eyes were dark and solemn. He refused to believe that this game of cat and mouse had completely reversed within these short few minutes.

"Today, the old me shall see whether this strength of yours is real or if it is merely just an act!" A cold glint flashed across Chen Yun's eyes. He clenched his fist and lightning flickered. It agglomerated into a lightning mace. His body moved and a faint lightning roar resounded.

Xiao Yan's eyes were calm as he looked at Chen Yun on the ground from the sky. An instant later, his hand suddenly reached back. A powerful Spiritual Strength surged before agglomerating into a five-foot-large spiritual cannonball in his palm. Xiao Yan's arm trembled strangely and the spiritual cannonball emitted a 'bang' before shooting out.

"Boom!"

The invisible spiritual cannonball had just been shot out when it suddenly exploded around ten feet from him. An old figure appeared in a miserable fashion before swiftly pulling back.

The shock in Chen Yun's face had finally reached its peak while he withdrew. That attack earlier informed him that the majestic aura of Xiao Yan in front of him was genuine. It was not an act put up by relying on some strange Qi Method.

"He is using Spiritual Strength. However, even some tier 7 alchemist have difficulty possessing such a majestic Spiritual Strength. Just what is the background of this brat?"

Chen Yun's heart felt somewhat uneasy. Ever since he had exchanged blows with Xiao Yan, the other party was unfathomable, appearing like a bottomless pit despite only possessing the strength of a Dou Huang on the surface. A puppet, 'Heavenly Flame,' and now this unusually terrifying Spiritual Strength. Each of these things only existed in legend when it came to an ordinary person. However, all of them actually appeared on him, forcing Chen Yun to withdraw the underestimation that he had made in his heart.

“Regardless of what method he used to cause his strength to soar, there will definitely be a time limit to it. Now, it is not wise to fight head-on with him. It is better to leave first and wait until his strength has weakened. It would not be too late to attack at that time!” Chen Yun swiftly suppressed the turmoil in his Dou Qi that was shocked by the Spiritual Strength earlier. After which, his mouth emitted a sharp whistle. He turned his body, used all his might to activate the Three Thousand Lightning Movement and finally transformed into an afterimage. After which, he rushed out of the mountain range, fleeing for his life as he did so.

Hong Tian Xiao, who was battling the Earth Demon Puppet, and the many helpers from the Hong clan in the sky, experienced a slight change in their expression when they heard this whistle. All of them knew that this was the signal to retreat.

“Dammit... just what did this brat do? His strength has actually soared to such a level.” Hong Tian Xiao cursed furiously in his heart. The majestic aura that permeated the sky also caused his mind to tremble a little. Dou Qi immediately surged in his body as his scimitar danced, forming a fiery-red blade curtain in front of him that forced the Earth Demon Puppet back. After which, Hong Tian Xiao also hurriedly pulled back.

“You wish to leave?”

Xiao Yan coldly laughed when he saw Chen Yun fleeing. He was indeed unable to maintain this condition for long. Hence, once he activated it, he needed to achieve something. Since this old fellow hated him to the core, he was not someone that could be left alive. A Dou Zong class enemy would ultimately bring about some trouble. It was better to end it once and for all.

A killing intent flashed across Xiao Yan’s heart. He raised his hand and pointed it at Chen Yun, who had turned into an afterimage and fled. After which, Xiao Yan abruptly clenched it.

When Xiao Yan’s hand was clenched, the empty space a thousand feet away suddenly became distorted before swiftly transforming into a substance-like spatial wall.

“Bang!”

Chen Yun, who had unleashed his maximum speed, did not discover the spatial wall that had suddenly appeared. He collided violently against it. The special rebounding strength of the spatial wall shot him. This fierce and powerful force shook Chen Yun until he felt his mouth becoming sweet. He forcefully swallowed after becoming aware of the sweetness.

Chen Yun’s body had just rebounded when he recovered. The first thing he did was to swiftly land his body and flee into the forest.

However, before his body could land on the ground, a human figure appeared in front of him in a ghost-like manner. A fist that was covered with a vast and mighty Spiritual Strength smashed over without any fancy moves.

Space ripples materialized wherever the fist traveled as numerous lines began to spread. They appeared like tiny black snakes filled with a frightening strength which chilled one’s heart.

Chen Yun’s expression changed drastically in the face of this plain fist. He let out a furious roar as Dou Qi surged out of his body. It agglomerated and formed a thick lightning barrier in front of him.

“Bang!”

The fist violently smashed the light barrier and the majestic Spiritual Strength unleashed an extremely frightening strength, like a volcano, before trickily shaking the lightning barrier until it burst apart. The remaining strength also splashed across Chen Yun’s body in a lightning-like manner.

“Grug!”

A mouthful of fresh blood was spat out as Yun Chen’s body smashed into the ground by the ruthless punch. His body rubbed against the forest below, forming a deep ravine that was over a hundred meters long. The trees along the way were all completely blasted apart as sawdust scattered in all directions.

After borrowing Tian Huo zun-zhe’s strength, Xiao Yan was able to

reach the level of a seven or even eight star Dou Zong while Chen Yun was merely a four star Dou Zong. The gap between every star in the Dou Zong class was extremely vast. Yet, Chen Yun wished to fight head-on with Xiao Yan. It was natural that his ending would be extremely miserable.

The disheveled Chen Yun stopped his body with much difficulty before throwing up a mouthful of fresh blood. The firm punch of Xiao Yan had caused him to suffer a serious injury. Moreover, that Spiritual Strength seemed to be unusually hot and violent. Some of the Spiritual Strength that had invaded his body had already begun a destruction on a great scale. Chen Yun's condition was extremely terrible upon facing this combination of external and internal attacks.

"If this continues, I will really die in that little bastard's hand. I cannot continue to be entangled with him..." Chen Yun's eyes contained a viciousness as he wiped off the blood trace from the corner of his mouth. He was just about to flee into the mountain range when that ghost like figure once again appeared in front of him like the maggot in one's tarsal bones.

"Xiao Yan, the Wind Lightning Pavilion will not let you off if you kill me!"

Chen Yun hurriedly cried out. His heart felt a shock upon seeing Xiao Yan chasing him once again.

"It is likely that they will not let me off even if I don't kill you..." Xiao Yan smiled at Chen Yun. However, this smile was just like a vicious demon, that chilled one's heart, from Chen Yun's point of view.

"Just what does it take for you to let me off? As long as you state your condition..." Before Chen Yun finished his sentence, Chen Yun's body shot backwards. A couple of fist-sized silver-colored beads were ruthlessly tossed toward Xiao Yan.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

The silver beads had just been thrown out when they suddenly exploded. Powerful air waves flattened the forest within a hundred meter radius.

Chen Yun's figure swiftly fled into the forest after having thrown the lightning beads. However, he did not have the time to sigh in relief when a strange human figure once again appeared. A leg that contained powerful Spiritual Strength was swung. The force on it was slammed viciously into Chen Yun's head.

"Grug!"

Chen Yun spat out a mouthful of fresh blood when the wild and violent strength erupted. His body flew backwards and broke a countless number of enormous trees along the way.

Hong Tian Xiao looked at Chen Yun, who was basically unable to retaliate, from the distant sky. His expression also changed.

"Ancestor, should we lend a hand?" An invited helper swallowed a mouthful of saliva as he softly asked.

Hong Tian Xiao's eyes changed rapidly. He immediately looked at the Earth Demon Puppet that had been delayed a little by a couple of people from the Hong clan before clenching his teeth and giving a command, "Retreat. Don't bother with him. That little fellow's strength is far too frightening now. Adding this to the puppet, we will only be courting death regardless of how many of us step forward!"

After saying this, Hong Tian Xiao decisively waved his hand, turned around, and fled without any hesitation. The other people from the Hong clan behind also hurriedly followed.

Chen Yun's entire body was covered with mud as he climbed up from the ground with much difficulty. He appeared extremely miserable with fresh blood flowing down from his head. Additionally, he looked ferocious. He had suffered a serious injury after having received a couple of full force attacks from Xiao Yan. Even the veins in his body had begun to show signs of breaking. Xiao Yan's Spiritual Strength was an extremely destructive with the support of the 'Heavenly Flame.'

Chen Yun panted heavily through his mouth. The space in front of him rippled and Xiao Yan's figure once again slowly appeared.

“Are you still able to run?’ Xiao Yan’s voice was completely emotionless as his silver-white-colored eyes stared at Chen Yun, which possessed a weary aura.

“Little bastard. Since you wish to kill the old me, the old me shall drag you to die with me!”

Chen Yun’s eyes gradually turned crimson. A craziness surged onto his face. Immediately, he charged angrily toward Xiao Yan. His body also swiftly swelled, appearing like a balloon that was about to explode!

Xiao Yan frowned slightly in the face of Chen Yun’s crazy act.

“Self-destruct huh...”

Chapter 974: Self Destruction of an Elite

Dou Zong

Xiao Yan's feet moved as he looked at the swelling Chen Yun, who was swiftly pouncing over. His body quickly rushed into the air. At the same time, his palms were opened and a thread of silver-colored spatial strength flashed and appeared.

“Spatial Seal!”

The space around Chen Yun suddenly fluctuated intensely as the soft cry sounded. It suddenly stirred an intense ripple and the invisible space immediately seemed to have become substance-like, transforming into a spatial prison that wrapped around Chen Yun!

Even an ordinary five star Dou Zong would have difficulty agglomerating such a substance-like spatial prison. However, Xiao Yan was able to create it after borrowing the strength of Tian Huo zun-zhe. Of course, the most important reason for this was that his body already possessed a thread of spatial strength. He used it as a medium in order to maneuver the spatial strength flowing in nature.

The spatial prison had just been formed when Chen Yun's body suddenly swelled to a frightening extent. Immediately, a soul-stirring explosion suddenly appeared!

“Bang!”

A frightening energy wave wildly swept in all directions like a tidal wave. The spatial prison resisted it a little before it burst apart. The entire mountain range shook intensely, appearing as though an earthquake had occurred. Numerous thousand-foot-large cracks spread out like spider web. The entire mountain range had descended into a panic at this moment. The strength involved when a four star Dou Zong self-destructed was extremely frightening.

Xiao Yan merely managed to temporarily dodge the attack of this frightening energy storm. His body flashed and appeared in the distant

sky. His eyes revealed a solemnness as he looked at the rampant energy wave. After this action by Chen Yun, this entire mountain range would likely turn into ruins.

Hong Tian Xiao, who was fleeing the mountain range, also sensed this frightening energy storm. His expression changed almost instantly.

“That old fellow Chen Yun actually self-destructed... by being able to force him until such an extent, that brat... is really too frightening.” Hong Tian Xiao suddenly felt a little bitterness in his mouth. If he knew that this brat would be so troublesome to deal with from the start, he would definitely not have made enemies with him. Possessing such an enemy really caused him to have difficulty eating and sleeping in ease.

However, this world did not have any medicine for regret. This was something that Hong Tian Xiao was also clearly aware of. Moreover, he was not an indecisive person. A fierce glow immediately flashed across his eyes as he muttered to himself, “This brat is indeed extremely strange. However, by killing Chen Yun, you will not be able to feel nice. The Wind Lightning Pavilion will not sit back and watch an Elder be killed. At that time... hee hee.”

With a sinister smile, Hong Tian Xiao decisively turned his head and waved his hand. His fleeing speed once again increased.

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The white-clothed, old man at a certain spot in the mountain range was also shocked by Chen Yun’s crazy act. He hurriedly pulled Han Xue as his body penetrated the mountain forest in a lightning-like manner. Finally, his figure flashed and landed on a mountain peak. He looked down at the rampant energy storm in the mountain range from high above and involuntarily inhaled a breath of cool air.

“This old fellow is really crazy...”

Han Xue was similarly shocked by the destructive energy below until her pretty face turned somewhat pale. The self-destruction of a Dou Zong was not something that just anyone would be able to personally witness.

“By being able to force a Dou Zong to take the dead end path of self-destruction, this young man called Xiao Yan is indeed extremely terrifying...” The white-clothed, old man slowly raised his head, looked at the blurry figure in the sky, and spoke in a somewhat hushed manner.

“Is he alright?” Han Xue’s eyes also swept over the sky. Her eyesight was far inferior to the white-clothed, old man. Naturally, she was unable to see Xiao Yan’s figure.

“What can happen to him. That spatial seal had eliminated Chen Yun’s intentions of dying with him.” The white-clothed, old man shook his head before immediately saying, “However, since he has killed Chen Yun, it is likely that he has truly become enemies with the Wind Lightning Pavilion. That Hong Tian Xiao will definitely announce the news to everyone when he gets back. Given the style of the Wind Lightning Pavilion, they will definitely dispatch experts to kill Xiao Yan.”

Han Xue’s hand involuntarily clenched upon hearing this. Her face revealed a worried expression.

“Alright, girl, there is no need to be overly worried. This little fellow is not an ordinary person. He kills decisively and does not possess a weak character. With such a character and his strength, it is likely that he will be able to do extremely well even in the Central Plains, where all sorts of experts hide. It is likely going to be quite difficult to kill him.” The white-clothed, old man smiled as he reassured her. His words held Xiao Yan in high regard.

Han Xue nodded slightly. Her hand pulled aside the black hair on her forehead while her bright eyes revealed sentimental thought as she looked to the sky. Her elder sister was right. This person was really too outstanding. He was so outstanding that very few women could hold onto him...

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The energy storm raged brutally within the mountain range. It continued for over ten minutes before it gradually weakened. During this period of time, Xiao Yan’s figure continued to remain in the sky. His eyes were also

gradually shut.

A whistling wild wind blew over the mountain range, carrying some dust with it. At this moment, the originally lush green forest had completely turned into a muddy color.

Xiao Yan in the sky finally opened his eyes when the last wisp of energy storm slowly disappeared. His gaze slowly swept over the mountain range below, which had become extremely chaotic. Finally, he gently landed and his footsteps slowly walked to the spot where Chen Yun had self-destructed earlier. An enormous pit that was a couple of hundred feet in size had appeared at that spot. The black darkness was such that one could not see the bottom at a glance.

Xiao Yan's gaze swept over the pit. His footsteps suddenly turned and he arrived at a spot near the enormous pit. There was a swaying withered tree located at that spot.

Xiao Yan's hand slowly rubbed the withered tree while a cold smile was suddenly lifted onto the corner of his mouth. His palm was violently thrown forward and the withered tree burst apart. Wooden chips flew and an illusionary spirit fled from it in panic. It flew toward the the sky. However, it had just moved when the surrounding space suddenly solidified.

"Elder Chen is really quite scheming. Allowing your body to self-destruct while a thread of your soul fled. Unfortunately..." Xiao Yan smiled, looked at the illusionary spirit, and softly spoke.

"Xiao Yan, don't kill me. We can sit down and talk properly. You don't wish to offend the Wind Lightning Pavilion in this manner, do you?" The spirit had just been trapped when it immediately transformed into Chen Yun's illusionary face. At this moment, his eyes contained a genuine fear. If this thread of soul were destroyed by Xiao Yan, he would truly be finished.

"I don't wish to reach such a stage too. However, all of this is because you have forced me..." Xiao Yan softly sighed. He extended his hand and immediately grabbed Chen Yun's soul.

“Little bastard, the Wind Lightning Pavilion will not let you off. Just wait for your death!” Chen Yun cursed viciously upon sensing Xiao Yan’s killing intent.

“Bang!”

Xiao Yan was expressionless. He tightened his hand and Chen Yun’s soul suddenly exploded. It immediately transformed into light spots before disappearing.

Looking at the scattering spiritual light spots, Xiao Yan knew that this Elder of the Wind Lightning Pavilion had gave his last farewell to this world.

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“He is careful and does not leave any room for his enemy to escape. This fellow is not an ordinary person...”

The white-clothed, old man suddenly sighed and spoke while standing on the mountain top.

Han Xue stood uncertainly by his side and blinked her eyes. She did not witness the scene where Xiao Yan destroyed Chen Yun’s soul. However, she felt that her great-grandfather, who possessed impossible expectations, seemed to give Xiao Yan a very high evaluation.

“Old sir has praised me too much. I am merely unwilling to allow some trouble to follow me again...”

A faint laugh suddenly sounded on the mountain top. Immediately, Xiao Yan’s figure slowly appeared in front of the white-clothed, old man.

“Xiao Yan.”

Han Xue immediately cried out joyfully upon seeing Xiao Yan appear.

The white-clothed, old man also smiled. However, his feet had shifted forward by half a step without leaving a trace, vaguely blocking Han Xue behind him as he did so. He had personally witnessed Xiao Yan kill Chen Yun. It was likely that this matter would bring about quite a lot of trouble for Xiao Yan if it were to spread. After seeing Xiao Yan’s vicious tactics

earlier, the white-clothed, old man did not treat Xiao Yan as a kind person.

“Old sir need not be so cautious. Xiao Yan is not a bloodthirsty person. Moreover, I owe Miss Xue-er my gratitude. Repaying kindness with revenge is not something that I can do.” Xiao Yan softly laughed. Although the actions of the white-clothed, old man were extremely small, it did not escape Xiao Yan in his current condition.

The white-clothed, old man felt somewhat embarrassed upon hearing this. He cupped his hand together and said, “The old me is Han Fei.”

“Xiao Yan greets old mister Han.” Xiao Yan cupped his hands together and replied with a grin.

“Ke ke, the old me is unworthy of such a big greeting.” Han Fei waved his hands before solemnly saying, “We will not say anything about the matter today. However, it is likely that Hong Tian Xiao will make it public. At that time, you will need to be careful of the Wind Lightning Pavilion.”

“Thank you for your warning, old mister Han.” Xiao Yan nodded. It was not that he did not wish to chase after Hong Tian Xiao. However, he was unable to maintain this condition for long. Once Tian Huo zun-zhe withdraw the Spiritual Strength, it was likely that Xiao Yan’s would experience a weary phase because of the overly powerful energy. How could he kill Hong Tian Xiao in that state?

“Since young friend Xiao Yan is aware of it, the old me shall not say anything more. I will bid you goodbye today. If there is an opportunity in the future, I will come and seek some advice from young friend.” Han Fei beamed. His gaze swept around him and knew that this was not a place that one should stay for long. Finally, he cupped his hands and spoke.

Xiao Yan smiled and nodded.

“You... you should be careful.” Han Xue bit her lower red lip with the back of her teeth and whispered when she saw that they were about to leave.

Xiao Yan grinned and said, “You should also take care.”

Han Fei by the side laughed bitterly in his heart upon seeing this

situation. He pulled Han Xue along as his figure moved and rushed toward a distant mountain range.

“Be careful of the Wind Lightning Pavilion. It is best for you to leave the northern region of the Central Plains as soon as possible...”

Xiao Yan looked at Han Fei and Han Xue who had disappeared into the distance when a faint gentle voice drifted over with the wind.

Xiao Yan exhaled a gentle breath. His eyes watched the two figures as they disappeared into the horizon. He also turned his body and flew to another side of the mountain range. The current him needed to quickly raise his strength. It was time to consume that Mighty Huang Pill. However, he was unaware how much this medicinal pill would raise his strength...

Chapter 975: Qingfeng Mountains

Enormous trees rose into the sky within a lush green mountain range. These large trees, that had grown for hundreds or thousands of years, were usually able to grow to a height of a couple hundred meters tall. They were the largest living beings in the mountain range. Even sunlight was blocked by their huge leaves. Hardly anyone was present in this place. Occasionally, the roar of a Magical Beast would appear, frightening off the many birds resting in the forest. The panicked fluttering of wings would form a white figure that spread over the sky, appearing majestic.

There was a tall mountain peak that jutted into the sky within the vast mountain range. The mountain peak was not very large, but it was extremely steep. Its walls were nearly vertical, and its precipitous mountain peak was extremely smooth. Unless it could fly, an ordinary Magical Beast would have difficulty ascending it.

Clouds lingered over the peak of the mountain while a young man sat cross-legged on it. A silver-colored human figure was sitting straight beside the young man. The figure's body did not move even a little while it's empty-hole-like eyes slowly swept around him. It would instantly kills anything that approached the mountain peak regardless of whether it was a person or Magical Beast, acting like the perfect bodyguard.

The young man maintained this posture for around two hours before he slowly opened his eyes. His somewhat pale-white face gradually recovered a little redness.

"Little fellow, your strength is too weak. However, it is fortunate that your body is tough. Otherwise, it would have been difficult to endure the pouring of my Spiritual Strength." A laughter sounded within Xiao Yan's heart when he opened his eyes.

Xiao Yan grinned and asked, "Old mister Yao, what level has your strength recovered to?"

"Around that of an eight star Dou Zong. Any increase in the future will be extremely difficult. Any attempt to return to the Dou Zun class will

require a physical body that would fit my spirit extremely well.” Tian Huo zun-zhe mused for a moment before laughing somewhat cunningly, “Hee hee, however, little fellow, we agreed earlier that you would help the old me resolve the matter of a physical body.”

Xiao Yan smiled involuntarily when he heard this. Tian Huo zun-zhe was a great help. If Xiao Yan could allow him to recover to the strength of a Dou Zun, it would definitely be beneficial for him. On this point, Xiao Yan would naturally lend a hand without holding back.

“The original body has the most perfect degree of fitting with one’s soul. If a soul were to randomly occupy a physical body, it is likely that the effects would be quite poor. Hence, a body can only be specifically refined...” Xiao Yan softly explained. Yao Lao had once mentioned to Xiao Yan the method to refine a body. Hence, as long as Xiao Yan found the necessary ingredients, he should be able to refine one with his current level.

“I shall leave the matter of the refinement to you. Remember, you must make the best one for the old me. Don’t cut corners. Although I have never refined a body, I am also aware that the strength of the ingredients is very important. It will also determine one’s achievement in the future.” Tian Huo zun-zhe laughed.

“Old mister Yao, please rest assured that Xiao Yan will definitely help you refine the best body.” Xiao Yan beamed as he replied.

“Hee hee, it’s best if this is the case. Little fellow, you can rest assured that the old me will not let you fall into any danger of losing your life before you refine the body for me.” Tian Huo zun-zhe laughed out loud. His heart did indeed feel a gratitude to Xiao Yan. If Xiao Yan hadn’t brought him out from that magma world, it was likely that he would have long since turned into nothingness. How could he possess his current grandness then? Moreover, he might even possess his own body in the future and once again have the wonderful feeling of being ‘human.’

Xiao Yan smiled when he heard these words. With this expert protecting him, he would be in possession of quite a large amount of capital that

would allow him to feel extremely safe when roaming the Central Plains.

“However, even with this talisman, raising his own strength was still the most important matter. After all, he could not borrow the strength of others all the time...”

Xiao Yan mused for a moment as a smile formed. He moved his hand and an emerald-like jade bottle appeared in his hand. He tilted the bottle and a medicinal pill the size of a dragon’s eye rolled out. Immediately, an unusual fragrance scattered, commanding everyone’s attention.

This medicinal pill was naturally the Mighty Huang Pill. Moreover, it was the best quality pill among those Mighty Huang Pills that Xiao Yan had refined. He did not take it out to be auctioned. Instead, he had kept it in preparation for his own use. Now, it was coincidentally able to come in handy.

The use of the Mighty Huang Pill was able to let an elite Dou Huang raise his strength by one or even two stars. However, this also depended on luck. Something like one’s strength not even raising after consuming the Mighty Huang Pill had happened before. Moreover, the unlucky thing was that even if they failed, this thing would similarly no longer possess any effect when they consumed it a second time. Hence, the people who consumed the Mighty Huang Pill would usually pray in their hearts that they would not end up meeting such an unlucky incident...

The medicinal pill slowly rolled on Xiao Yan’s hand. A moment later, he gently exhaled a breath, widened his mouth, and swiftly stuffed the medicinal pill into it.

The Mighty Huang Pill immediately melted upon entering Xiao Yan’s mouth, transforming into a somewhat warm, powerful medicinal strength that wildly surged into Xiao Yan’s body.

Following the surging in of the great amount of pure medicinal strength, the corner of Xiao Yan’s mouth also twitched. It was fortunate that his veins were tough. Otherwise, he would have difficulty consuming such a large amount of medicinal strength in one go.

Xiao Yan gently inhaled a breath of air when the medicinal strength

swiftly surged and flowed into all his veins. A thought passed through his mind and the Glazed Lotus Heart Flame surged around his body. Immediately, the flames charged into his veins and swiftly wrapped around the enormous medicinal strength. After which, it forcefully pulled this wild horse like fellow. Following the route of the Flame Mantra Qi Method, it slowly began to circulate.

The space around Xiao Yan in the outside world began to ripple intensely when the medicinal strength surged within Xiao Yan's body. Wave after wave of energy appeared before agglomerating into an energy swirl in the space above his head. Finally, the energy slowly seeped into him through the top of his head...

Being in possession of a 'Heavenly Flame' made refining the mottled energy from nature an easy matter for Xiao Yan. He was able to refine whatever came regardless of the quantity involved.

Everything slowly came on track, following the gradual activation of the medicinal strength within his body. The medicinal strength of the Mighty Huang Pill might be great, but it was insufficient to cause the current Xiao Yan to feel any panic with his current ability. Everything proceeded extremely smoothly. Whether the Mighty Huang Pill was able to raise Xiao Yan's strength by one or two stars would depend on the results when the time came...

The mountain peak had become quiet after Xiao Yan entered into a slow refining state. Only the Earth Demon Puppet beside him continued its sentry duty...

The Qifeng Mountains were quite renowned within the northern region of the Central Plains. The reason was not because there was a Phoenix within it. Instead, this was the place where the Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion stood.

The Wind Lightning Pavilion was divided into the north, south, east, and west pavilions. The north, south, and west were complementary branches while the east pavilion was the strongest. Even though this was the case, any one of the three pavilions possessed the qualification to be ranked

among the top tier factions within the Central Plains. The union of the four pavilions was comparable to some of the factions at the peak, and it was called the giant of the northern regions of the Central Plains for that reason.

Qifeng Mountains were extremely arduous in nature. The precipitous mountain peaks were covered in a layer of fog that left one with a paradise-like feeling.

The peak of Qifeng Mountain seemed to have been hacked into two by an enormous axe. There were numerous partially visible buildings hidden within the lush greenery. The most eye-catching part of the entire mountain peak was the enormous silver-colored pagoda that was located on the highest peak.

This enormous pagoda, that rushed into the sky, was named North Lightning Tower. Its body was covered by a bright-silver color. One could faintly hear the slight sound of rumbling thunder emitted from it. This was the sacred training ground of the Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion. Only the most outstanding people could obtain the qualification to enter it and train.

On the highest level of the North Lightning Tower was a spacious hall. At this moment, a number of people were sitting within it. Wave after wave of majestic strength permeated the room, causing the guards standing outside of the hall to tremble in fear.

“Elder Yun’s Spiritual Lightning Tablet has already broken...”

A silver-colored leader’s seat was located in the middle of the hall. Faint lightning glows moved along the chair, spreading in all directions. A silver-clothed figure was leaning on the backrest of a chair while his silver eyes slowly swept below him. Finally, a faint voice reverberated across the hall.

His voice was not too loud but had a strong pressuring feeling. No one dared to underestimate him.

Three old men with different clothes in the hall immediately reacted when these words sounded. They had a clear idea of what a Spiritual

Lightning Tablet was. A thread of their spiritual imprint was stored inside. Should they unluckily die one day, this Spiritual Lightning Tablet would also shatter. If this was the case, Chen Yun...”

“There is actually someone who dares to attack a person from our Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion within the northern region of the Central Plains? Don’t tell me that it is someone from the Ten Thousand Sword Pavilion?” A black-clothed, old man with two long silver-colored eyebrows spoke in a solemn manner.

“We are temporarily unaware of who it is. This time, Elder Yun had accompanied Hong Chen to Tian Bei City, no? Feng, Lei, Dian. You three elders should investigate just what happened. Capture the person who attacked regardless of who he is, even if he is someone from the Ten Thousand Sword Pavilion. The members of our Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion are not people who can be killed so easily...” The silver-clothed human figure on the leader’s seat slowly commanded.

“Understood!”

The three old men immediately stood up and respectfully replied. After which, they transformed into light figures that rushed away before swiftly disappearing.

The large hall once again became empty and quiet after these three old men disappeared. A moment later, the human figure on the leader’s seat slowly stood up. He gently waved his sleeves and rumbling thunder resounded across the hall.

“It is really a bold move to touch the people from my Wind Lightning Pavilion in this place. I will likely be laughed at by those two fellows if I don’t locate you...”

Chapter 976: Nine Star Dou Huang

Clouds lingered over the mountain peak as space rippled. Wave after wave of mottled energy swiftly appeared. It surged into the body of the young man seated on the edge of the mountain peak from all directions. Faced with this endless pouring in of energy, Xiao Yan's body also appeared like a bottomless pit. It did not show any sign of being filled regardless of how the energy poured into him.

Xiao Yan had already maintained this state for three days ever since he had consumed the Mighty Huang Pill. His body was just like an unmoving rock during these three days. Only the repeatedly rotating energy swirl above his head on the mountain peak emitted a soft howling sound.

The enormous medicinal strength of the Mighty Huang Pill within Xiao Yan's body had already transformed into surging Dou Qi that flowed like floodwater within Xiao Yan's veins. Moreover, there was an unceasing amount of natural energy surging in from nature. It was refined by the 'Heavenly Flame,' transforming into pure Dou Qi that merged into this large cluster of energy.

Although there was a large quantity of natural energy, the remaining pure Dou Qi, that Xiao Yan absorbed, was of a small quantity after numerous refinements. However, it was at least better than nothing. Accumulated water would eventually form a river while dripping water would eventually penetrate a rock. Such accumulation over time would reach quite a frightening level. The Dou Qi within most of the practitioners had been acquired in this manner. Relying on medicinal pills to raise one's strength was, after all, a short-cut. It could not be used excessively or one would fail to reach a higher level due to the faster training speed.

However, if one really wished to talk about it, this was the first time that Xiao Yan had used a medicinal pill to raise his strength. He had never used a Dou Spirit Pill when he was in the Dou Wang class. Hence, he was not in the category of overuse.

The training of Xiao Yan lasted for quite a long time. The medicinal strength of the Mighty Huang Pill within his body had already been completely refined a day earlier. However, he did not immediately move. Instead, he chose to continue training. This was because he had vaguely sensed that the medicinal strength of the Mighty Huang Pill alone would be insufficient to allow him to raise his strength by two stars. He always pursued perfection in everything he did. It was a golden opportunity this time around. Naturally, he needed to grasp it and raise his strength by the greatest possible extent...

Another four days passed while Xiao Yan maintained this attitude. During these seven days, Xiao Yan had placed all his attention on absorbing the natural energy. Under this unceasing absorption, the Dou Qi that flowed within his veins had gradually surged and become forceful. Each time it circulated, it would bring about an unceasing amount of energy. Such a filled feeling caused him to possess an impulse to roar at the sky...

Of course, such an impulse was naturally suppressed by him. He clearly knew that if he let out a roar, the hard work that he had put in during his training would likely be wasted.

Time swiftly passed during the training. The mountain peak was still as quiet as before. Occasionally, the Earth Demon Puppet would suddenly raise its head and throw a punch toward a spot not far from the mountain. A frightening force penetrated the air and smashed a Magical Beast, that had flown within a hundred meter radius of the mountain peak, into a pile of flesh. During this period of time, this mountain peak had basically become a forbidden ground within the mountain range. The Magical Beasts that had suffered some losses had also learned to be much more obedient. They would take a detour when passing through this place. Therefore, Xiao Yan's training progressed in an extremely stable manner.

A little activity finally appeared on the morning of the eighth day. The energy swirl above Xiao Yan's head trembled a couple of times before slowly scattering. The fluctuating space around him had also gradually returned to its calm state.

The energy swirl had disappeared for a short while before Xiao Yan's eyelids began to twitch gently. A moment later, they were slowly opened.

The dark-black eyes were ancient yet ordinary. They were so calm that they appeared to have just awoken. There was not the slightest ripple within them.

The training seal was gently scattered. Xiao Yan slowly raised his head and his hand spread out in a flat manner. A thought passed through his mind and the surging Dou Qi that flowed within his veins immediately began to churn. Finally, it was like a horse that had lost its restraint as it fled Xiao Yan's veins and merged into his body...

With the majestic Dou Qi having merged with every part of Xiao Yan's body, a sharp glow suddenly appeared in Xiao Yan's dark-black eyes. His aura was also raising straight up at this moment. It swiftly broke through the seven star level and crossed into the eight star level!

The aura did not come to a stop after breaking through to the eight star level. Instead, it surged wildly. The clothes on Xiao Yan's body fluttered in the absence of the wind, and the stone Xiao Yan was seated on also emitted a 'crack' sound. A couple of tiny lines appeared in the stone. The surrounding permeating fog also appeared to have been pulled apart by a pair of invisible hands.

The fog rapidly swelled. A moment later, Xiao Yan finally reached the peak of the eighth star. A layer of invisible film suddenly appeared and suppressed the rising aura.

Xiao Yan clenched both his hands abruptly as he sensed the faint clogging feeling. He did not stop at this point. Instead, he suddenly stood up and let out a long howl toward the sky.

A clear crane-like cry instantly penetrated the clouds and resounded over the mountain range. It was a long while before it calmed down.

The howl lasted for quite a long time, as though a breath was forced to its limit. Xiao Yan's face had also become flush-red because of this. Green veins pulsed like earthworms on his face, giving him a ferocious appearance.

“Break it!”

Xiao Yan’s hands were clenched tightly. The piece of enormous rock under his feet suddenly burst apart. Rock fragments flew in all directions as a stern cry was emitted from Xiao Yan’s mouth.

“Crack!”

Somewhere, a non-existent layer was broken. The aura belonging to Xiao Yan, which had ceased rising, rose once more, breaking through the eighth star level, finally stopping on the ninth star!

The aura had just broken through to the ninth star when it came to a sudden stop. Xiao Yan’s body collapsed in a weary manner. His hands supported himself on the ground while he panted repeatedly with a flushed face. Although his limbs had already become weak, there was a joy that was difficult to hide within his eyes. He knew that the current him had broken through to the ninth star level with the help of the Mighty Huang Pill and his own resolution!

In other words, the current Xiao Yan was a nine star Dou Huang. There was only the gap of one star to the Dou Zong class!

Although this one star has halted a countless number of experts, Xiao Yan had confidence in himself. This Dou Zong would not be his end!

“Little fellow. Not bad. You actually know how to push forward a little at such a moment, relying on your willpower to advance. The old me has not seen this for many years...” Tian Huo zun-zhe’s sigh was slowly emitted while Xiao Yan was panting.

“Old mister Yao has overpraised me. It is just that a break was being restrained in my heart, and I wished to spit it out. However, it is unexpected that I broke through this barrier.” Xiao Yan rubbed away the cold sweat on his forehead and laughed. After the earlier weariness, he could sense a majestic Dou Qi surging through his body. That weary feeling swiftly disappeared.

“Regardless of how it happened, it is still not something easy to achieve...” Tian Huo zun-zhe laughed.

Xiao Yan beamed. He stood up from the ground and twisted his body. The bones all over began to crackle. A comfortable feeling, that came from deep within his body, traveled through his entire body, causing Xiao Yan to involuntarily let out a groan.

“Is this the feeling of a nine star Dou Huang... it is indeed very strong...”

Xiao Yan clenched his fist and suddenly threw a punch out. The space in front of him immediately fluctuated. A sharp sonic boom was formed on his fist, which possessed an extremely great might. The strength of this force was really a couple of times stronger than a couple of days ago.

After inhaling a breath of somewhat moist air, Xiao Yan turned his head. He glanced at the Earth Demon Puppet before involuntarily smiling. Using this thing as a guard was really quite good.

“Now that I have consumed the Mighty Huang Pill, I should leave this place. After having killed Chen Yun, it is likely that the Wind Lightning Pavilion will not take such a blow lying down. It is now not the best time to clash head-on with them. I should find a city with a Wormhole and leave this place to hide from them. Trying my best to break past the Dou Huang class as soon as possible is the most important thing...”

Xiao Yan mused for a moment. Finally, he waved his hand and stored the Earth Demon Puppet into his Storage Ring. After which crystal bone wings were expanded from behind his back. Wild wind rose with a flap of the bone wings, blowing away the fog around the mountain peak. Xiao Yan's body had transformed into a ray of light that rushed out before flying to the exit of the mountain range.

The forest had finally become sparse after Xiao Yan flew through the mountain range for a couple of hours or so. The outline of a city also vaguely appeared in Xiao Yan's eyes.

Xiao Yan landed not far from the city. After which, he swiftly headed to the entrance of the city. However, he hesitated for a moment upon seeing some human figures on the road. He took out a Doupeng from his Storage Ring, covered his head, and finally walked toward the city.

Xiao Yan's gaze paused on the entrance of the city when he was close to

it. Quite a number of human figures had gathered there. He vaguely able heard some words like 'wanted.'

With a slight frown, Xiao Yan approached the city's entrance without anyone noticing. His gaze swept over the wall where the crowd had gathered and his eyes immediately solidified.

A bright silver paper was on the city wall. It contained the portrait of a person on it. Surprisingly, it was that of Xiao Yan's head. Below the drawing was a silver-colored tower-shaped seal. This badge had once appeared on Chen Yun's chest...

Clearly, this was a wanted poster. Its target was Xiao Yan.

Many curious people were gathered in front of the wanted poster. Numerous discussions popped up.

"It is rumored that this little fellow killed Chen Yun of the Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion. No wonder the Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion has issued a wanted order..."

"Really? This fellow looks no older than his twenties. That Chen Yun is an elite Dou Zong."

"Chi, you have not heard about the matter in Tian Bei City the other day. The Hong clan of the Tian Bei City has been turned into a miserable state."

"What is the use of issuing a wanted order now. No one knows just where he has run off too. He might have already left the northern region."

"The Wind Lightning Pavilion has not only issued a wanted order, but the Han clan of the Tian Bei City has also been placed under house arrest by the people from the Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion. They should be thinking of using them to force Xiao Yan out. However, it is not like that Xiao Yan is a fool. How could it be possible for him to fall into their trap when he clearly knows that there are three experts from the Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion in Tian Bei City..."

Xiao Yan's body trembled violently upon hearing the last sentence. His face under the Doupeng had suddenly turned gloomy. His tightened fist

also emitted a cracking sound.

“Wind Lightning Pavilion...”

A voice that contained a sinister killing intent softly seeped out of the gap between Xiao Yan’s teeth! The fury and hatred within it was not the least bit hidden. Clearly, Xiao Yan had grown extremely angry at this moment. His usually expressionless-self had unleashed the anger that he had suppressed within his heart.

Chapter 977: A Very Dangerous Place

A human figure was standing above a lush green sea of trees. His gaze looked to the northern sky and his brows were knit slightly as sunlight landed on his face. At this moment, the face of this expert suddenly revealed hesitation and regret. It was likely that this expression would cause his opponents to feel extremely shocked. This unusually merciless person could actually make such an expression.

The Han clan being held under house arrest by the Wind Lightning Pavilion was indeed something that Xiao Yan had not expected. After all, regardless of how one put it, the Han clan possessed quite some weight within Tian Bei City. Moreover, they did not intervene in this matter. Unexpectedly, the bastards from the Wind Lightning Pavilion were acting in such a despicable way.

The aim of the Wind Lightning Pavilion, by spreading news that the the Han clan was held under house arrest, was something obvious, not even worth mentioning. They wanted to force Xiao Yan to reveal himself and rescue them. Xiao Yan was certain that Tian Bei City was likely already occupied by the experts from the Wind Lightning Pavilion at this moment. The moment he revealed himself, it was likely that he would end up facing an extremely intense battle.

Currently, Tian Bei City had already become a trap, waiting for Xiao Yan to fall into.

This trap was not really hidden by the Wind Lightning Pavilion. Moreover, it was also impossible for them to hide it. Even ordinary people were aware of what it was. How was it possible for Xiao Yan not to realize it? If one were to really talk about it, it was impossible for the other party to completely ignore such an action unless that person was cold-hearted. This so-called trap would naturally be ineffective on people like that.

However, Xiao Yan wasn't not a cold-hearted person. Towards enemies, he might have been able to be cold-hearted. However, to normal people or those that he knew, he was extremely kind and this personality of his

allowed him to have quite a few friends and experts gathering around him. People like Hai Bodong, Little Fairy, Queen Medusa to even the Tian Huo zun-zhe all felt this. Those who were cold hearted to even their friends would have trouble getting others to treat them genuinely. This point was part of Xiao Yan's charm.

Xiao Yan inhaled a deep breath and sighed, "The Wind Lightning Pavilion is really hateful. It wants to force me out. In that case, I will do as they wish..."

"Little Fellow, do you intend to head to Tian Bei City? That place is definitely filled with experts now." An elderly laugh sounded within Xiao Yan's heart.

"A great man has things that he can do and cannot do. This matter is something that was stirred by me. Given my character, it is difficult for me to just stand idly by the side..." Xiao Yan softly replied.

"Ke ke, these words are indeed true. The old me hates the kind of people who implicate their friends and end up acting in a timid manner. Although you are quite young, you really suit the taste of the old me. If you had not mentioned that you already have a teacher, you would not be a bad choice for a disciple." Tian Huo zun-zhe laughed heartily.

"Mister Yao has overpraised me." Xiao Yan smiled when he heard this. His shoulders shook and a pair of crystal bone wings slowly spread apart. He smiled and said, "In that case, let's get moving..."

"Relax, as long as the old me is around, I will guarantee that nothing will harm you as long as we do not meet an expert at the peak of the Dou Zong class." Tian Huo zun-zhe laughed loudly.

"In that case, I will thank old mister Yao..."

Xiao Yan also laughed out loud. He raised his head and looked over the endless sea of lush green trees. A pride involuntarily surged in his heart, and he let out a clear roar toward the sky. The shout was like the cry of a crane that clearly reverberated unceasingly over the sea of trees.

"Even if your Wind Lightning Pavilion has turned Tian Bei City into an

extremely dangerous place, I, Xiao Yan, will still not be afraid!”

The cry slowly sounded before the bone wings on Xiao Yan’s back were flapped. His body transformed into a ray of light that flashed toward Tian Bei City...

.....

The atmosphere within Tian Bei City was somewhat strange during these few days. This was because everyone knew that quite a number of experts from the Tian Bei City had hurried over upon orders. They had caused the many factions within the city to become anxious. With the strength of the Wind Lightning Pavilion, they would not possess even the slightest qualification to resist if the Wind Lightning Pavilion wanted to expel them.

Fortunately, however, the thing that they were worried about did not occur. The experts from the Wind Lightning Pavilion did not do anything to them. The first thing these people did upon arrival was lock up the Han clan’s manor. No one could leave or enter. The entire clan was imprisoned in the manor.

Although the Han clan possessed quite a great strength within Tian Bei City, they did not pose much of a threat to the Wind Lightning Pavilion. The grand Elder of the Han clan, Han Fei, might have fought with the experts from the Wind Lightning Pavilion in anger back then, but he could only give up despite feeling suffocated in his heart when the three Elders from the Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion attacked together. His strength could at the very most fight with a single Elder. He would definitely be defeated if the three were to attack together.

However, it was not as though Han Fei’s resistance did not have any effect. The experts from the Wind Lightning Pavilion merely sealed off the entrances and exits, and did not barge into the manor. This caused the Han clan to feel a little better. The members of the Han clan clearly understood the intentions of the actions by the Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion this time around. They wanted to use this to force Xiao Yan, who was hiding in an unknown location, out.

However, other than a few people, most of the members of the Han clan did not think that Xiao Yan would really show himself because of this. At this moment, there were quite a number of elite disciples from the Wind Lightning Pavilion within Tian Bei City. Most importantly, there were the three Elders, Feng, Lei, and Dian. The strengths of these three people was a little stronger than Chen Yun. Unless it was some old demon of the Dou Zong class, very few people could fight with them when they joined hands. Even if Xiao Yan possessed the frightening strength to kill Chen Yun, it was likely that he would find it difficult to fight against these three renowned Elders from the Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion...

Of course, it was not only the members of the Han clan who were making guesses. The entire Tian Bei City and some other cities, who had heard rumors, were all trying to figure out if Xiao Yan would really turn up. However, most of the people guessed that Xiao Yan would not appear. After all, from the way they saw it, not many people, who were thinking straight, would dare to charge into the dangerous grounds even if he was the young man called Xiao Yan, who had given them a great shock on the Sky Stone Stage back then.

Seven days passed by quickly while a countless number of people were engaged in discussions. Tian Bei City was as quiet as it was before these seven days. The big battle that they had imagined did not arrive. Immediately, quite a number of people became disappointed as a result. It seemed that Xiao Yan really did not dare to come...

Sometimes, humans were a very strange creature. When they made uncertain guesses earlier, they thought that Xiao Yan charging in was an extremely foolish idea. Now, after having ascertained that he would not appear, they could not help but feel disappointed. They even quietly felt a little disdain. Their hearts had placed a charge of abandoning one's friends on Xiao Yan's head.

.....

A graceful pretty figure was seated on a stone chair in a small serene courtyard within the Han clan's manor. Her pretty eyes was a little absent-minded as they wandered the room. The current Han Xue was much

skinnier than before. Although she still emitted a coldness, she appeared a little more moving and pitiful.

Han Xue softly sighed as her pretty eyes focused for a moment.

“Xue-er, you have been running here everyday...” A soft helpless voice sounded from behind Han Xue while she was sighing. Han Xue turned her head and discovered that it was Han Yue.

Han Xue’s pretty face turned slightly red. She looked at the pity on Han Yue’s face when she clenched her hand and suddenly asked, “Elder sister, do you think... will he come?”

Han Yue was startled when she heard this. Seven days had already passed by, and there had been no news of Xiao Yan. Given her understanding of Xiao Yan, he was not a heartless person. However, the few day’s wait had caused the confidence in her heart to sway significantly.

“He should... will likely come.”

Han Yue finally said after hesitating for a moment.

“I hope that he won’t come... those three old fellows from the Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion are people whom even great-grandfather greatly fears. Although Xiao Yan is very strong, he is likely no match for the three old fellows...” Han Xue’s long eyelashes blinked gently as she softly spoke.

“Won’t you be very disappointed if he really doesn’t come? Won’t you feel as though you have misjudged him?” Han Yue raised her bright eyes and asked with a smile.

Han Xue knit her brows slightly. This question really caused her to feel quite distressed. However, she still nodded her head seriously a moment later. She said, “I will be a little disappointed... but I still hope that he won’t come...”

“Foolish girl...” Han Yue shook her head. She rubbed Han Xue’s black hair and comforted her with a smile, “Relax, the prince in your heart will arrive in Tian Bei City with his beautiful bone wings, and beat the crap out

of these bastards from the Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion.”

Han Xue involuntarily smiled sweetly upon hearing this. She extended her arms and wrapped them around Han Yue’s narrow waist. Her head leaned against Han Yue’s shoulder and her pretty eyes contained some moisture. Using a voice that only she could hear, Han Xue softly muttered, “Please do not come...”

“Bang!”

Han Xue had just finished muttering to herself when a rumbling thunder suddenly resounded in the sky above Tian Bei City. Immediately, the entire city could sense a majestic aura that was not the least bit hidden rushing toward the city in an extremely quick manner.

The entire Tian Bei City had descended into an uproar when this aura had just appeared. Numerous stunned gazes looked in the direction the aura originated from. A ray of light was cutting through the air in a lightning-like manner from that direction.

“Xiao Yan? He has really come?”

“This fellow really does have some courage. Ha ha, looks like the old me has won my bet this time around...”

Tian Bei City, which had been quiet for a couple of days, seemed to have recovered at this instant. Numerous heated gazes looked to the sky outside of the city. They knew that Tian Bei City would no longer be quiet today...

Three old men on the top of three trees around the Han clan’s manor instantly opened their eyes when the aura had appeared. They slowly raised their heads and looked into the distance. A cold smile appeared on their old faces.

“Is he finally about to arrive...”

Chapter 978: Nine Heavenly Lightning

Prison Formation

The ray of light broke through the air and arrived, appearing much like a falling star swiftly crossing the sky. Within the blink of an eye, it appeared in the sky above Tian Bei City and transformed into a somewhat skinny figure.

“Ao!”

Tian Bei City had gradually become much dimmer and more solemn when the figure appeared. The majestic storm under the dark clouds had transformed the place into a world of water.

The storm came pouring down and landed on the buildings, emitting a clear sound as it did so. In an instant, the entire city emitted a continuous ticking sound. Although the rain had come quite suddenly, hardly anyone entered the buildings. Numerous human figures were under the storm as their somewhat heated gazes stared at the figure in the sky. Many people did not expect this young man, called Xiao Yan, to reveal himself despite clearly knowing that Tian Bei City was already an extremely dangerous place...

At this moment, quite a number of those who raised their heads felt a little respect. There was no need to talk about anything else. Just the courage of this fellow was sufficient to cause them to raise their thumbs.

Xiu! Xiu! Xiu! Xiu! Xiu! Xiu! Xiu! The rain curtain seemed to have connected the sky and the earth. Suddenly, a rushing sound appeared and over a dozen figures appeared on the tall buildings. Their gazes were ice-cold as they stared at the human figure in the sky. A low and deep cry was emitted within the rain curtain, “Who are you!”

“Xiao Yan...”

The young man in the sky stood with his hands behind his back. Any raindrop that had entered a ten-foot-radius of his body was instantly turned into nothingness. Looking from a distance, it seemed as though

there was an invisible wall covered him. A calm voice was also slowly emitted from the sky while all this occurred.

“By order of the Elders, kill Xiao Yan. Do it!”

The eyes of the green-clothed man at the front immediately turned cold upon hearing that name. Finally, he let out a stern cry.

“Understood!”

The cry had just sounded when over a dozen figures rushed over from the surrounding buildings. Their arms shook and over a dozen long silver-colored spears appeared. The spears trembled, cut through the rain curtain, and shot toward Xiao Yan while carrying a sharp wind! Seeing this, the corner of Xiao Yan’s mouth was lifted into a cold smile. His hands were curled slightly and a majestic jade-green flame suddenly surged out. A frighteningly high temperature vaporized the rain within a radius of hundreds of feet! The speed of the fire serpent that was created from the Glazed Lotus Heart Flame was extremely quick. With a flash, it appeared in front of those experts from the Wing Lightning Pavilion. Its hot temperature caused the members to be greatly shocked. Before they could unleash an attack, the fire serpent had approached in a lightning-like manner. Its fire tail was swung, firmly smashing everyone’s chest. Immediately, numerous muffled moans could be heard as many figures fell from the sky. They landed on the ground, held their chests, and repeatedly groaned.

An exclamation involuntarily sounded from within Tian Bei City when everyone saw Xiao Yan randomly force back over a dozen Dou Wang class experts from the Wing Lightning Pavilion. This leisurely attitude was something that even some Dou Huangs did not possess. Xiao Yan seemed to have become much stronger after having disappeared for a couple of days.

“The people from the Wind Lightning Pavilion are only this great. There is no need for these unimportant people to step forward. Three Elders, you should personally come and capture me if that is your intent.”

Xiao Yan’s sharp eyes suddenly shot in the direction of the Han clan

after randomly defeating over a dozen experts from the Wind Lightning Pavilion. His cold cry still rumbled over the entire Tian Bei City despite the heavy rain.

“You are the first member of the younger generation that the three of us have joined hands to capture ever since we have become the Elders of the northern pavilion.” A faint voice that vaguely carried a thread of rumbling thunder slowly resounded. Immediately, the rain curtain in the sky seemed to have been torn apart by an invisible hand. Three old men stepped through the empty air as they slowly walked over.

Xiao Yan’s eyes shrank slightly when he saw the three old men stepping through the air and heading over. The aura of these people were all a little stronger than Chen Yun. From his guess, it was likely that they were all five star Dou Zong. Moreover, based on Xiao Yan’s observations of the aura of an old man with long silver-colored eyebrows, it was likely that he had reached the peak of a five star Dou Zong.

Three five star Dou Zongs had appeared in one go. Moreover, this was merely the strength of the northern pavilion. If the four pavilions were to gather, just how great would its strength be. This Wind Lightning Pavilion really did not rely on an empty reputation to become a top faction in the Central Plains.

“It is likely that the three of you are Feng, Lei, and Dian Elders, right? The Wind Lightning Pavilion really has a very high opinion of me...” Xiao Yan slowly said.

“You are naturally not some ordinary person by being able to kill Chen Yun. It is not considered overboard for the three of us to appear together.” The old man with silver-colored eyebrows replied. His voice faintly contained a rumbling thunder. It seemed that its very nature had caused everyone to feel extremely pressurized.

“That is something that he can only blame himself. No one else should be blamed...” Xiao Yan faintly responded.

“You possess the Three Thousand Lightning Movement and killed an Elder of our Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion. This offence cannot be

forgiven. On account of you being a younger generation, we will allow you to return with us to the Wind Lightning Pavilion. The Pavilion Head might be merciful and spare your life.” An old man with numerous lightningbolts sewn on his clothes coldly cried out.

“If I were to head there, I might really have no means of surviving...” Xiao Yan smiled as he replied.

“Why is there a need to waste our breath on this fellow. Let’s capture him first. The Pavilion Head said that anyone who kills the members of our Wind Lightning Pavilion must pay a price for it. We’ll capture him, cripple his Dou Qi, and imprison him in the Wind Lightning Tower forever. We will let others know that they should think of the consequences if they wish to touch the members of our Wind Lightning Pavilion in the future!” A dark sternness flashed in the eyes of a green-robed, old man as he spoke in a deep voice.

Xiao Yan’s face gradually became cold when he heard this old fellow’s ruthless words. Cripple one’s Dou Qi and imprison one forever. These two punishments were all so extreme that they were frightening...

Xiao Yan waved his hand and the Earth Demon Puppet appeared. Its eyes were empty as it stood beside Xiao Yan. Its gaze was dark and cold as it focused on that green-robed, old man. Xiao Yan spoke with a cold smile, “You wish to cripple my Dou Qi? I shall see whether you have the qualifications to do so!”

The expressions of the three Wind Lightning Pavilion Elders changed a little the moment the Earth Demon Puppet appeared. They nodded slightly and said, “It is indeed a Dou Zong class puppet. Even our Wind Lightning Pavilion does not possess such a treasure. It is unexpected that you own such a fortune. However, this is far from sufficient to protect your life...”

“If it isn’t enough, what about this?”

Xiao Yan’s finger gently rubbed the snow-white-colored ring as he slowly asked.

A incomparably majestic Spiritual Strength once again moved along his arm and wildly surged into Xiao Yan’s body in a flood-like manner as his

voice sounded.

With the surging of the majestic Spiritual Strength, Xiao Yan's aura had also began to wildly climb in front of the many shocked eyes at this instant.

The majestic aura swept through the sky. Even the storm had paused as a result of this. Only when Xiao Yan's dark-black eyes had transformed into an indifferent silver-color did his soaring aura finally stop.

"Is this sufficient?"

Xiao Yan's silver-colored eyes focused on the Feng, Lei, and Dian Elders. His calm voice appeared to have sounded from deep within his soul.

"It is indeed as Hong Tian Xiao has described. This aura of his should be around that of the peak of a seven star Dou Zong and is approaching the eight star level. Moreover, such strength is an extremely pure Spiritual Strength. It is likely that there is a powerful Spiritual Body in you. Otherwise, it is difficult for you to reach such a level by yourself." The old man with long eyebrows observed Xiao Yan intently while he spoke in a low and deep voice.

Xiao Yan's eyes narrowed. The eyesight of this old fellow was indeed extremely sharp. He was actually able to identify the source of his strength at a glance. This old man was much more experienced compared to Chen Yun.

"This strength is indeed extremely strong. No wonder you were able to kill Chen Yun. However, you might not be able to walk out of Tian Bei City today." The elder with long eyebrows spoke indifferently.

"Hong Tian Xiao, we'll leave the puppet to you."

"Ha ha, Elder Lei, you can rest assured that this puppet will not intervene in your battle until this big battle is over." A human figure rushed over from a distance before finally suspending itself in the sky. This person was Hong Tian Xiao.

Xiao Yan knit his brows slightly upon seeing this. This old fellow...

A figure suddenly flashed and appeared from within the Han clan just after Hong Tian Xiao appeared. However, the long-eyebrowed, old man's expression turned extremely chilly when this figure had appeared. He coldly said, "Han Fei, if you dare to intervene in the battle today, the old me will guarantee that your Han clan will be destroyed!"

The figure suddenly paused when it heard this cry filled with a dark chill. Han Fei tightened his fists and revealed a struggling expression.

"Old mister Han, this is a matter between the Wind Lightning Pavilion and me. You should not intervene..." Xiao Yan's faint laughter was slowly transmitted over while Han Fei was struggling.

"Brother Xiao Yan, it is really a joyous matter for the Han clan to befriend you!"

Han Fei inhaled a deep breath of air. He raised his head, and bowed to Xiao Yan in an unusually solemn manner before sweeping his gaze toward the three Elders from the Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion. He was filled with fury as he turned around and landed in the Han clan's home.

"All members of the Wind Lightning Pavilion Northern Pavilion, listen up. Form the Heaven Lightning Prison Formation!"

The long-eyebrowed, old man's expression gradually turned frosty after forcing Han Fei back. His cold voice resounded over the entire city!

"Yes sir!"

The cry had just sounded when numerous respectful voices were immediately emitted from all over Tian Bei City. 'Chi La' sounds quickly rang out and numerous lightning figures formed an eight corner shape, coincidentally surrounding Xiao Yan's location.

The lightning glow flickered and suddenly transformed into a thunderbolt that blasted toward the sky, charging into the thick, dark clouds. An instant later, a glaring silver glow scattered down. Countless numbers of thunderbolts descended from the sky in a dense manner. They appeared just like a prison, wrapping the entire area within a thousand feet around Xiao Yan.

“Regardless of your origin, surrendering is your only option!”

A bright lightning slowly surged out of the bodies of the three Elders. Immediately, they transformed into an enormous lightning pillar that shot toward the clouds. Immediately, the surrounding dense lightning glow had become many times denser.

“Other than this, you will only die!”

The chilly cry was filled with a killing aura under the backdrop of the thunderbolt, causing one’s heart to tremble.

Chapter 979: Thunder God's Fury

Thunderbolts came pouring down from all around one after another. The silver-colored lightning seemed to be swimming around like small white-colored snakes. All of them repeatedly emitted glaring glows. These lightning bolts contained an enormous amount of strength that existed in a fashion visible to the naked eye. The world could easily break amid the flashing lightning and thunderous roars.

Bang, bang, bang, bang, bang, bang. The thunder came without stopping. A moment later, Xiao Yan slowly raised his head and looked at the thick, dark clouds, which had almost been dyed silver. An extremely frightening energy was gathered inside it. It appeared that this Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion had really taken out a great capital in order to capture him. They had even used such a great formation.

“Using the Han clan as hostages and forcing you out is indeed something that is not the style of our Wind Lightning Pavilion. The matter today might end up causing us to be criticized. Hence, it will also be the last time. However, we must capture you. We will not allow the Three Thousand Lightning Movement to be used by an outsider!”

“Regardless of who wins today, the Han clan is no longer related to this matter.”

The old man with long eyebrows stared intently at Xiao Yan. His voice was just like rumbling thunder as it was emitted from the thunderbolt curtain, reverberating all over Tian Bei City. They had also suffered a lot of pressure while holding the Han clan under house arrest during these few days. By saying these words now, they accounted to the people from Tian Bei City and the Han clan. Of course, his most important aim was to restore a little of the negative image that had been formed during these few days. After all, the Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion was merely one of the Wind Lightning Pavilions. If they ended up ruining the reputation of the Wind Lightning Pavilion as a result of this, they would also not be able to escape the responsibility of doing so.

Xiao Yan calmly watched the three old men. One could not see any emotion in his silvery eyes as he said, "Just attack. I, Xiao Yan, will definitely not do something as foolish as surrendering and allowing myself to be captured. If you wish to capture me, you will need to show some genuine ability."

Xiao Yan pointed his finger at the three Elders upon saying these words. The Earth Demon Puppet beside him also emitted a glow in its empty-hole-like eyes. Its feet stomped on the empty air as it transformed into a silver-colored figure that rushed forward.

"Hee hee, Xiao yan, your opponent is Elder Lei and the others. Allow the old me to deal with this puppet." The Earth Demon Puppet had just rushed out when a crack line suddenly appeared in the thunderbolt curtain. Hong Tian Xiao rushed in while laughing loudly. He immediately blocked the Earth Demon Puppet.

"Kill him!" Xiao Yan's silver-colored eyes swept over Hong Tian Xiao in an indifferent manner as he softly uttered.

The body of the Earth Demon Puppet suddenly emitted a silver glow when these words left Xiao Yan's mouth. Its palm wind also became extremely sharp. Each punch carried a deep sonic boom as they violently smashed toward Hong Tian Xiao.

Seeing that the Earth Demon Puppet had suddenly shown its might, Hong Tian Xiao did not dare to underestimate it even a little. He clearly knew that the strength of this puppet was extremely frightening. If he was careless, it was not impossible for him to be killed by it. However, it was fortunate that his task was merely to hold it back and not to defeat it.

Majestic fiery-red Dou Qi surged out of Hong Tian Xiao's body. He drew two ten-foot-long scimitars that violently danced. Finally, they collided with the Earth Demon Puppet. An intense big battle immediately erupted.

The lightning glow flickering on the long-eyebrowed, old man's body became increasingly dense upon seeing Hong Tian Xiao successfully block the Earth Demon Puppet. He stared at Xiao Yan as he said in a deep voice, "This Nine Heavenly Lightning Prison Formation is a great formation of

my Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion. It is formed by twenty-three expert Dou Huangs and forty-six expert Dou Wangs. Moreover, the three of us will act as the center of the formation. If you are able to breakthrough it today, your name Xiao Yan will be able to shake the entire northern region of the Central Plains.”

Xiao Yan’s expression did not change because of these words. He slowly raised his hand and rotated it slightly. An enormous spiritual swirling cannonball was formed. Immediately, it emitted a ‘bang’ and shot out explosively. A distorted path also appeared in the empty space along the way.

Faced with Xiao Yan’s attack, the long-eyebrowed Elder did not dare to slight it. The seal on his hand changed and the thunder clouds churned in the sky. Immediately, a loud noise sounded and a ten-foot-large thunderbolt landed with a bang, appearing like a furious dragon. It ruthlessly smashed the swirling spiritual cannonball.

“Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!”

The two fierce attacks were slowly annihilated. A powerful energy wave spread in a swift and ferocious manner. However, it ended up scattering when it reached a distance of a hundred feet around both Xiao Yan and the long-eyebrowed Elder.

Xiao Yan’s gaze slowly swept over the three Elders. There was a lightning light pillar on their heads that shot into the thunder clouds. Among the three of them, only the long-eyebrowed Elder directed the attacks. The remaining two seemed to be pouring all the Dou Qi within their bodies into this thunder clouds.

“This great formation is indeed somewhat profound...”

“Heaven Lightning Skill!”

The face of the long-eyebrowed Elder was cold and stern while the seals on his hands swiftly changed. The lightning clouds randomly churned in the sky. An instant later, his finger suddenly pointed at Xiao Yan.

Chi! Chi! Chi! Chi! Chi!

The thunder clouds churned as a countless number of enormous serpent-like thunderbolts shot out of it. Finally, they struck at Xiao Yan from all directions. Their mighty aura caused one's heart to feel afraid.

Xiao Yan's feet gently stomped down as a Jade-green flame surged from his body. It immediately permeated the space hundreds of feet around him. The flame fiercely rose and agglomerated into an enormous fire wolf that howled at the sky. It widened its enormous mouth and a suction force surged out. The thunderbolts that shot over were swallowed by it.

After the thunderbolt was completely swallowed by the fire wolf, waves after waves of muffled thunder began to be emitted from the enormous body of the fire wolf. Its body had also become a little paler. However, it ultimately refined those thunderbolts.

“Go!”

Xiao Yan flicked his finger. A fierce expression immediately surged into the eyes of the fire wolf as it opened its stride and leaped into the sky, charging toward the long-eyebrowed Elder and the others as it did so.

Before the fire wolf arrived, its high temperature caused the expressions of the three Elders to change. Their faces were solemn as they exclaimed, “Heavenly Flame?”

“Heaven Lightning Slash!”

A stern cry sounded and a bright-silver glow suddenly flashed across the sky. Immediately, the charging fire wolf paused. A moment later, it slowly split apart, gradually turning illusory amid a ‘chi la’ sound.

During these short ten plus minutes, the attacks of both parties were extremely dangerous despite their seemingly calm nature. Regardless of whether it was an attack by lightning or fire, as long as someone was struck by any one of them, it was likely that they would not end up well. Such an intense battle was one that even an ordinary Dou Zong would be afraid of joining.

“Xiao Yan, don't drag things out with them. They have the support of the great formation and will be able to continuously use lightning attacks. My

Spiritual Strength cannot remain for too long in your body. Therefore, you should hurry up and settle this!”

Tian Huo zun-zhe’s reminder suddenly sounded within Xiao Yan’s heart.

Xiao Yan nodded slightly upon hearing this. He inhaled a deep breath of air and his finger gently pressed on the fire seal on his head. It formed a hook and a dense-white-colored flame swiftly came out from it.

Xiao Yan grabbed the Bone Chilling Flame the moment it appeared. The jade-green flame split apart, transforming into the Fallen Heart Flame and the Green Lotus Core Flame.

Three types of ‘Heavenly Flames’ were suspended in front of Xiao Yan. Finally, the three kinds of flames suddenly started to merge when his hand was clenched. Immediately, a frighteningly wild and violent force spread out.

“Three types of ‘Heavenly Flame?’ How is this possible?”

The three Elders, who had not shown emotional fluctuations earlier, changed their expressions when they saw the three types of ‘Heavenly Flames’ in front of Xiao Yan. All of them involuntarily let out a cry of disbelief.

The expression of the long-eyebrowed, old man also became much gloomier after his startled cry sounded. His gaze was exchanged with the other two. They grit their teeth and the seal on their hands began to change.

Following the rapid change in their hand seals, the lightning pillar that was emitted from their heads became stronger. After receiving such a great amount of lightning Dou Qi, the lightning cloud in the sky appeared like a creeping ancient fierce beast. It emitted waves of low and deep rumbling sounds that caused one’s head to feel numb. A similarly wild and violent energy was swiftly formed at the same time.

When the wild and violent energy was formed, the faces of the three Elders gradually became pale.

Three types of ‘Heavenly Flames’ were merging in Xiao Yan’s hand.

While they were merging, threads of destructive strength quietly seeped out. This caused the spatial strength around Xiao Yan to form some thread-like dark-black cracks.

Cracks had suddenly appeared in the air at this moment!

With this current condition of Xiao Yan, it was not difficult for him to merge the three types of 'Heavenly Flames.' Hence, a basin-sized three-colored fire lotus slowly appeared on his palm a short couple of minutes later.

The three-colored fire lotus rotated slowly. Each time it did so, some dark-black lines appeared in the surrounding space.

"Xiao Yan, throw this good thing toward that thundercloud. That is the center of the formation. As long as that place is broken, these three Elders will be seriously injured. Even those people forming the formation outside will suffer a backlash." Tian Huo zun-zhe's voice sounded within Xiao Yan's heart the moment the fire lotus was formed.

Xiao Yan's hand moved upon hearing this. The three-colored fire lotus in his hand rotated and flew out. Its target was the churning thunder cloud in the sky.

The expressions of the long-eyebrowed Elder and the two others changed again when they saw what Xiao Yan did. They immediately bit their tongues. Three mouthfuls of essence blood were spat out as they cried out furiously, "Nine Heavenly Lightning Prison, Thunder God's Fury!"

"Bang, bang, bang, bang, bang!"

After the cry of the three people sounded, a soul-stirring explosion was immediately emitted from the thundercloud. The churning speed also came to a slow stop. Immediately, bright-silver glows shot out and an enormous lightning fist, a couple of hundred feet in size, broke through the thundercloud. It then came crushing down.

Sharp sonic booms from all over the sky basically appeared one after another as the fist appeared. Continuous crackling sounds appeared as well. Even the street on the ground had suddenly cracked apart, revealing

an enormous fist imprint.

The enormous lightning fist carried a frightening strength as it came smashing down. That momentum was basically one that aimed to completely destroy everything in front of it.

However, a three-colored light was advancing under the cover of the frightening fist without facing any resistance. Although its size was small, the destructive strength that seeped out of it brought forth spatial crack lines while it progressed.

Chapter 980: Fire Lotus Might

Bright glaring light energy appeared like a sun, which suddenly appeared in the sky. The intensity of the light had basically caused this weather, which had become a little dim because of the thunderclouds, to become extremely bright.

The strength of such a glow had far exceeded the fiery hot sun in the distant sky! Just what kind of intense glow was this? It was likely that no one in this world had seen such an intense light. A person's eyes would likely only see a complete whiteness. This place seemed completely empty, causing everyone's hearts to be startled...

The loud rumbling thunder appeared just like the roar of a thunder god that reverberated over the sky. However, the expected soul-stirring explosion did not appear. The spot where the three-colored lotus made contact with the enormous lightning fist had numerous spatial folds that were visible to the naked eye. The two extremely frightening energies were quietly eroding each other.

Along with the erosion of the two frightening energies, a half foot wide black hole slowly appeared. The space where the two energies collided could not endure the other's presence and ended up forming some spatial cracks.

The spatial black hole gradually widened. It spread until it was around a hundred feet in size in front of the countless number of shocked eyes!

The enormous lightning fist and the three-colored fire lotus had begun to fluctuate following the growth of the spatial black hole. Numerous thunderbolt-like silver snakes followed the enormous fist as they wildly poured down. They were violently channeled toward the fire lotus. In the face of the enormous lightning fist's wild and violent attack, the three-colored fire lotus became unusually calm. It rotated slowly and numerous fire seedlings, that vaguely carried three colors were emitted, blocking all of those silver bolts of lightning that came pouring down.

Although the battle between the two was completely silent and an overly

soul-stirring explosion did not occur, anyone with some eyesight could tell that such an exchange was even more frightening and dangerous. Within a hundred feet radius of this exchange, everyone, including Xiao Yan and the three Wind Lightning Norther Pavilion Elders would likely end up in a miserable state. The space around that location had already been covered by wave after wave of extremely wild, frighteningly violent energy.

The fire lotus slowly rotated. Following each of its rotations, the enormous lightning fist vaguely became a little dimmer. At the same time, the expressions of the three Elders also became even paler. The destructive strength within the fire lotus caused them to possess a fear that unfurled from deep within their souls.

“Crack!”

The rotating speed of the three-colored fire lotus suddenly became much faster in front of an innumerable number of gazes. Following the increase in its speed, the rate at which the enormous lightning fist became dimmer increased. In the end, the fist suddenly trembled and numerous crack lines slowly spread out in front of the shocked eyes of the three elders. Eventually, it emitted a ‘crack’ sound and collapsed into a countless number of silver-colored light spots!

Under the might of the great formation, the three Elders’ all out attack was unable to block the frightening three-colored fire lotus...

If Xiao Yan had relied on his own strength to create this three-colored fire lotus, it was naturally extremely difficult for him to achieve this effect. However, the current Xiao Yan had borrowed the strength of Tian Huo zun-zhe. Thus, his strength had already reached a frightening level. The strength of the three-colored fire lotus, that he had currently displayed, was naturally extremely frightening.

After all, the Angry Buddha Lotus Flame was a powerful Dou Technique where its strength would accompany an increase in Xiao Yan’s strength!

As long as Xiao Yan’s strength continued to rise, the power of the Angry Buddha Lotus Flame would also become more and more terrifying.

“Grug!”

The enormous lightning fist collapsed and the three Elders ended up spitting out a mouthful of fresh blood. The shock in their eyes became even denser. It was unexpected that even with the combined strength of the three of them along with the help of the Nine Heavenly Lightning Prison Formation, they were unable to defeat Xiao Yan's frightening fire lotus attack.

The color of the three-colored fire lotus had become much dimmer as the enormous lightning fist collapsed. However, it was fortunate that it had not simply scattered as a result. It paused for an instant before it emitted a 'xiu' sound. It then transformed into a ray of light that charged toward the thunderclouds in the sky.

Seeing this, the long-eyebrowed elder immediately quivered. He hurriedly changed his hand seal and a couple of enormous lightning pillars immediately shot out from the thunderclouds. Their target was the fire lotus.

"Bang!"

The lightning pillars ruthlessly attacked the fire lotus, but they did not cause it to pause even a little as three-colored fire seedlings rose out. These fire seedlings might appear to be the size of a finger, but they instantly vaporized the lightning pillars into nothingness upon contact. This scene caused everyone to tremble in fear.

The lightning pillars did not stop the attack of the fire lotus. While the fire seedling rose, the light ray that was formed by the fire lotus charged into the thunder clouds.

"Heaven Hall, Scatter Formation!"

The eyes of the long-eyebrowed Elder immediately shrank to the size of a pin-hole upon seeing the fire lotus barging into the thunder cloud. A horrified loud cry rumbled.

However, before the Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion's experts at the exterior of the formation could recover from his cry, the interior of the thunder cloud emitted a soul-stirring explosion that resounded over the place. Immediately, an enormous fire wave surged out in an untamed

floodwater-like manner!

The thunder cloud endured for an instant in the face of the attack from the enormous fire wave before it burst apart, transforming into clusters of tiny electric glows as it did so!

The thunder cloud was created by the experts from the Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion and the three Elders. Hence, they were naturally implicated now that it had been destroyed. The thunderbolt curtain that had spread all over the place immediately disappeared. Numerous ‘grug’ sounds of blood being spat out repeatedly resounded over Tian Bei City. Some of the people standing on the buildings fell down head first.

The people within Tian Bei City involuntarily wiped off their cold sweat when they heard the sound of blood being vomited from all directions. That majestic storm had also been vaporized by the fire wave in the sky. The stormy weather from earlier had turned into one with clear skies that stretched for thousands of kilometers...

“Even the joint effort of the three Elders from the Wind Lightning Pavilion and the use of the Nine Heavenly Lightning Prison Formation cannot trap him... this Xiao Yan is really too terrifying...”

“After fighting the Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion’s three Elders and the many experts by himself, it is likely that Xiao Yan’s name will spread over the entire northern region within a short couple of days.”

“Ha ha, it is really joyous. I have not wasted a trip this time around. This big battle is the most intense one that I have seen in my life. It is likely that Xiao Yan could hardly find an opponent among the younger generation.”

“It is rumored that the Wind Lightning Pavilion has a certain Feng xiao-jie. Her training talent is considered extremely outstanding and is the choice as the next eastern pavilion head. I wonder if she will be able to fight against Xiao Yan?”

“.....”

The bodies of the long-eyebrowed Elder and the two others in the sky

stilled momentarily while the entire city emitted numerous private conversations. Their faces had finally turned pale-white while their breathing had become sluggish. The forceful scattering of the thunder cloud was very harmful to them.

“Retreat!”

The hand of the long-eyebrowed old man trembled slightly. A moment later, he finally clenched his teeth and softly spoke a word.

“Since you have forced me out, you cannot expect me to simply leave empty-handed after exhausting a great amount of strength to engage in a big fight with you.” Xiao Yan faintly smiled. His eyes congelated and a majestic Spiritual Strength immediately surged out in all directions. Immediately, it penetrated space and violently pressed on the three Elders whose auras were sluggish.

“Grug!”

The three Elders’ bodies were already weary. Upon suffering such a heavy blow, a mouthful of fresh blood was immediately spat out of their mouths. Their bodies flew back like cannonballs. When they were forced back, the rings they wore on their fingers slipped off. After which, these rings were grabbed by Xiao Yan’s Spiritual Strength before flying back to him.

Elder Feng immediately became furious upon seeing that their Storage Rings had been stolen. He was just about to cry out furiously when the gloomy long-eyebrowed Elder stopped him.

“Let’s leave first!”

With a stern cry, the long-eyebrowed Elder and the other two unleashed their remaining Dou Qi. Lightning glows surged and the three of them turned into three rays of light that rushed out of Tian Bei City in a lightning-like manner. After which, they disappeared into the horizon.

Xiao Yan beckoned with his hand after seeing the three Elders fleeing into the distance. He held the three Storage Rings in his hand. It was not that he did not intend to kill all of them, but these three stuck together

like chewing gum. If he were to really force them until that stage, it was likely that Xiao Yan would lose more than he gained. He was able to defeat the three of them, but killing them would require him to pay quite a terrible price.

Xiao Yan glanced at the Storage Rings. His finger rubbed over them. Borrowing Tian Huo zun-zhe majestic Spiritual Strength, he was able to easily remove the spiritual imprints on them.

Xiao Yan's spirit swiftly invaded the rings after having removed the imprint. After a search, three bright-silver-colored scrolls flashed and appeared in his hand.

"They were indeed with these three old fellows..."

These three-silver-colored scrolls were similar to the one he had obtained from Chen Yun. Even the blood veins on its surface were exactly the same. Clearly, these three scrolls should be part of the 'Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body'. However, he did not know whether he would be able to obtain a complete version of them after including the scroll already in his hands.

Xiao Yan could not help but feel a little anxious after thinking until this point. Of course, he would naturally not test it in this kind of situation. He flipped his hand and stored the three scrolls into his Storage Ring. Immediately, his dark eyes slowly turned to Hong Tian Xiao, who was still entangled with the Earth Demon Puppet.

The killing intent within Xiao Yan's heart was even more intense when it came to this old man. He knew that the news of Chen Yun dying to his hands had been spread by this fellow. The information that the people from the Wind Lightning Pavilion had on him should have also been revealed by this old man...

It might not be possible to kill the three Elders today, but this Hong Tian Xiao needed to die!

Hong Tian Xiao, who was fighting with the Earth Demon Puppet in the distance, had naturally also sensed that the three Elders had fled after being defeated. His expression immediately became extremely ugly.

“These three old bastards!”

Hong Tian Xiao roared furiously within his heart. He had just forced back the Earth Demon Puppet when he sensed a pair of ice-cold eyes, that contained a killing intent, being shot over from a distance.

Hong Tian Xiao’s expression instantly became much paler after sensing the density of the killing intent within those eyes. His mouth was filled with bitterness...

At this moment, he had finally understood just what kind of frightening existence he had offended this time around...

Chapter 981: Killing Hong Tian Xiao

Fiery-red Dou Qi appeared just like a fire as it emitted some heat and wrapped Hong Tian Xiao within it. His hand was holding a scimitar that was over ten feet long. It danced in a mighty manner as it carried a blade glow that contained a hot wind and whizzed out. They immediately hacked at the Earth Demon Puppet's body.

“Clang! Clang!”

The scimitar violently hacked at the body of the Earth Demon Puppet. Under the full strength of Hong Tian Xiao, some scars appeared on the silver surface of the puppet's body. However, no fresh blood flowed out. The Earth Demon Puppet appeared to be completely unaware of these wounds on its body as its powerful fist carried a low, deep sonic boom that smashed toward Hong Tian Xiao. This caused Hong Tian Xiao to appear a little miserable as he tried to dodge. After all, he was not immune to all sorts of pain like the Earth Demon Puppet.

The corner of Hong Tian Xiao's eyes drifted toward the figure that was slowly stepping through the empty air. His originally ugly face had become much darker. With a furious cry, the large blade in front of him danced and formed a wild wind. Sharp blade glows emitted 'shua shua' sounds as they threw the Earth Demon Puppet's fist aside.

“Fire Splitting Blade!”

The fiery-red Dou Qi agglomerated crazily on the enormous blade. Hong Chen Tian's eyes turned cold as furiously hacked down. The blade glow cut through space and ruthlessly struck into the Earth Demon Puppet's arm. The blade cut half an inch into it. The fiery-red blade caused a 'chi chi' sound to appear while white smoke was emitted from the Earth Demon Puppet's arm.

“Bang!”

The eyes of the Earth Demon Puppet remained empty despite having suffered such an attack. It ignored the large blade in its arm as a silver-colored fist was suddenly thrown forward. It ruthlessly smashed into Hong

Tian Xiao's chest.

"Hmph!"

A frightening strength surged out when the fist came smashing over. Hong Tian Xiao's throat let out a muffled moan. His body shook and he hurriedly stepped back. A thread of sweetness in his throat was forcefully held back by him.

"Since you dare to hurt my puppet, you shall die!"

Hong Tian Xiao's feet stabilized his body. Before had time to do anything else, however, a somewhat indifferent voice suddenly sounded behind him.

The voice was transmitted into Hong Tian Xiao's ears, and his eyes immediately shrank. His gaze looked in the direction where Xiao Yan had been, only to see an afterimage slowly disappearing.

A chill suddenly surfaced in Hong Tian Xiao's heart as he looked at the scattering afterimage. The chill had just materialized when frightening wind suddenly shot over from behind him.

Hong Tian Xiao hurriedly turned around while he was feeling shock in his heart. His hand holding the large fiery-red blade did not hesitate even a little. He agglomerated the Dou Qi all over his body and ruthlessly hacked down.

"Chi!"

The sharp blade glow was swung at the enormous spiraling spiritual cannonball. Both paused for a moment when before Hong Tian Xiao's arm suddenly trembled and the spiritual cannonball suddenly exploded.

"Bang!"

An invisible wave of air spread out. Hong Tian Xiao, who was the first to be struck by it, once again felt his throat become sweet. A thread of fresh blood involuntarily seeped out of the corner of his mouth. He could not be bothered to wipe off the trace of blood as he hurriedly opened his mouth, "Little brother Xiao Yan, this is a grudge between the Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion and you. It has nothing to do with the old me. The old

me was forced to attack.”

“Do you think that I will believe you?” Xiao Yan looked at Hong Tian Xiao. His face contained a faint ridicule. This old fellow was really quick to shed responsibility.

“Little brother Xiao Yan, my Hong clan is indeed at fault regarding this matter. As long as you open your mouth, my Hong clan is definitely happy to compensate your losses!” Hong Tian Xiao’s expression was dull when he saw this. His gaze rotated as he hurriedly said.

“Compensation?” Xiao Yan’s footsteps paused as he asked with some interest.

Seeing that Xiao Yan was finally interested, Hong Tian Xiao also felt joy in his heart. He hurriedly nodded. Although he revealed a very sincere joy on his face, his heart was filled with a viciousness.

“From what Wu Lei Elder has said earlier, this brat’s strength seems to originate from a spiritual body in him. In other words, he will not be able to maintain this kind of condition for long. Once the time’s up, he will definitely enter a weary state. At that time, I will find an opportunity to kill him... this little bastard has caused my Hong clan to suffer heavy losses. Moreover, he is clearly not a merciful person. It is definitely extremely difficult to reconcile with him after all that my Hong clan has done. Hence, this brat must die!”

Although this evil thought was lingering within Hong Tian Xiao’s heart, his face was filled with smiles. He ceased showing the arrogance he usually possessed. “Ke ke, as long as brother Xiao Yan has this intention, my Hong clan will definitely put in all our effort. If we can resolve our grudge, we might even be able to become friends.”

Xiao Yan seemed to be deep in thought. A moment later, he nodded slightly and said, “Since senior Hong has such an intention, it is naturally for the...”

Before Xiao Yan’s words completely sounded, his eyes suddenly turned dark and chilly. Hong Tian Xiao’s heart silently said ‘not good’ when he saw this. Before he could dodge, however, a frightening wind suddenly

appeared behind him.

“Xiao Yan, you bastard. You actually dared to deceive the old me!”

Hong Tian Xiao immediately let out a furious roar upon sensing the great strength of the wind behind him. He immediately swung the scimitar in his hand ruthlessly toward his back. Finally, a clear ‘clang clang’ sound appeared as it cut onto the arm of the Earth Demon Puppet. However, the puppet did not step back. Instead, it strode forward, pulled its arms apart, and firmly hugged Hong Tian Xiao.

Hong Tian Xiao was startled when his limbs were restrained. He quickly began to struggle. Fire-red Dou Qi surged out of his body like an erupting volcano. However, the Earth Demon Puppet firmly restrained Hong Tian Xiao under Xiao Yan’s orders. It completely ignored the heat of the Dou Qi.

“The old me will definitely not allow you to kill me this easily!” Hong Tian Xiao’s eyes revealed a craziness after becoming aware that Xiao Yan had the intention of killing him off after he had been restrained by the Earth Demon Puppet. The Dou Qi within his body collided. Immediately, a wild, violent force hurriedly surged out. From its appearance, this old fellow was actually thinking of self-destructing.

Xiao Yan appeared to have anticipated Hong Tian Xiao’s plan. The Dou Qi in his body surged, and his body rushed forward in a ghost-like manner. His eyes were ice-cold while a jade-green fire palm appeared. It was just like a flame cone as it was viciously pierced forward.

“Chi!”

The struggling Hong Tian Xiao suddenly stiffened amid a soft sound. He slowly lowered his head with much difficulty and looked at the fire hand that had penetrated his chest. The viciousness in his eyes had yet to reach its peak when they solidified.

Xiao Yan was expressionless after having destroyed Hong Tian Xiao’s life force with a single attack. Xiao Yan suddenly placed his hand on Hong Tian Xiao’s head and violently pulled. An illusionary spiritual body was immediately pulled out.

“Little bastard Xiao Yan. The old me shall die with you today!”

The illusionary Hong Tian Xiao's spirit had just been pulled out when it let out a vicious roar. However, before his soul could self-destruct, a majestic Spiritual Strength had surged out of Xiao Yan's body and violently collided with the soul. Immediately, Hong Tian Xiao's soul turned illusionary and the sanity within his eyes swiftly disappeared.

Collisions between spirits was the most dangerous thing that could happen. If one was careless, not only would one's mind be damaged, but the other party's mind would also suffer some injuries. However, it was fortunate that after having borrowed the Spiritual Strength of Tian Huo zun-zhe, Xiao Yan's Spiritual Strength was far stronger than Hong Tian Xiao's Spiritual Strength. Hence, this collision had greatly reduced the consciousness within Hong Tian Xiao's soul.

Xiao Yan grabbed Hong Tian Xiao's soul when he saw the paralysis appear in his eyes. A majestic Spiritual Strength was like a bandit as it used the most brutal method to barge into Hong Tian Xiao's soul. After sweeping through it, Xiao Yan completely removed his consciousness.

Xiao Yan swiftly took out a jade bottle after having eliminated the consciousness. After which, he stuffed the spirit into it. His hand rubbed over it and an invisible flame appeared. A fire seal was placed on the mouth of the bottle.

“A five star Dou Zong's spirit and body. My reward is quite great this time around. If I am able to obtain another rank 7 Monster Core, I will be able to refine another puppet. Of course, the precondition is if I am lucky enough to successfully refine it...”

Xiao Yan waved his hand and stored Hong Tian Xiao's body, that was gradually turning ice-cold, into his Storage Ring. He finally patted his hand as he spoke to himself.

The exchange in the sky was witnessed by a countless number of people within Tian Bei City. When they saw the final ending of Hong Tian Xiao, quite a number of people quietly swallowed a mouthful of saliva. This brat was indeed quite vicious... with these actions of his, the Hong clan was

basically finished. Having lost the protection of this ancestor, Hong Tian Xiao, the strength of the Hong clan would diminish...

The clan, which had once dominated Tian Bei City, had currently been completely destroyed by the hands of that young man called Xiao Yan. The Hong clan could be considered to have kicked a metal plate this time around...

Xiao Yan in the sky stored away the Earth Demon Puppet after having finished off Hong Tian Xiao. After which, his gaze was thrown toward the Han clan. His body moved, and he slowly disappeared from the sky.

Han Xue watched Xiao Yan, who had disappeared, from a silent yard deep within the manor of the Han clan. Her pretty face involuntarily became a little anxious. She was just about to use her Dou Qi wings to rise into the air when a voice slowly sounded within the small yard.

"It is likely that the Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion will not use the Han clan as hostages in the future. As long as the Han clan does not mention my existence, it should be able to survive peacefully."

Han Xue and Han Yue quickly turned their heads when they heard this voice. They looked at the young man who had appeared in the yard. Han Xue's heart became excited as she took two steps forward. Immediately, however, she seemed to have understood something. Her pretty face became somewhat pale as she asked, "You will not return again after leaving, will you?"

Xiao Yan smiled and softly replied, "I have already offended the Wind Lightning Pavilion. If I entangle myself with all of you, it is likely that the matter today will occur again. Ke ke, when my strength reaches a level where I am no longer afraid of the Wind Lightning Pavilion, I will come visit the Han clan. I hope you won't end up chasing me away at that time."

Han Xue tightly bit her lower red lip with the back of her teeth. Her lovely body had a kind of unsteady feeling. She was vaguely aware that she might really have difficulty meeting Xiao Yan again in the future after they parted ways today.

"Xiao Yan, thank you. The Han clan will remember this favor of yours!"

Han Yue softly sighed softly. She stepped forward, pulled Han Xue, and gently spoke to Xiao Yan.

“Senior Han Yue is really too courteous. I am merely resolving trouble that I created.” Xiao Yan smiled. He immediately looked at the pale faced Han Xue and sighed within his heart. Cupping his hands together, he said, “Help me bid big brother Han Chong and the rest goodbye. You are the first group of friends that I have made after arriving in the Central Plains region... hopefully, we will meet again!”

Xiao Yan’s voice sounded before his body trembled and slowly disappeared.

Han Xue watched the gradually disappearing Xiao Yan. She finally involuntarily pounced into Han Yue’s embrace and began to cry.

Han Fei’s figure hurriedly appeared at the entrance of the yard. However, when he saw the crying Han Xue, he could only let out a sigh. His gaze looked to the distant sky as he muttered, “Little friend Xiao Yan, the Han clan will accept this favor of yours. We will definitely repay you in the future if we have the opportunity to!”

Chapter 982: Remnant Spiritual Imprint

Xiao Yan's figure paused for a moment in the sky outside of Tian Bei City before letting out a sigh. His figure turned and transformed into a ray of light that rushed to the distant sky. Xiao Yan's flying speed was very quick. Currently, Xiao Yan was no longer stingy with his strength. Instead, the thing he was about to do was the first problem he needed to consider.

After flying for nearly a few hundred kilometers, Xiao Yan's body suddenly shook. That majestic aura that permeated his body immediately scattered in a swift manner, appearing like a sponge losing water.

"Time's up..."

Xiao Yan involuntarily laughed as he sensed the swiftly weakening strength of his body. It seemed that he really needed to strengthen himself. His gaze swept in all directions before his body moved and landed on a mountain peak below with strange rock ruins.

"The strength that you displayed this time around is too fierce. This has resulted in some injuries appearing in your body. You should quickly recuperate. Otherwise, a sequelae might be left behind. Moreover, you should use my Spiritual Strength as little as possible unless it is a critical moment. During these few days, I have discovered that each time you use my Spiritual Strength, a remnant spirit of mine is left within your body. If too much of these things exist, it is likely they will cause your body to form a resistance to your soul. At that time, your soul will not be able to merge perfectly with your physical body and it would be too late for you to cry." Tian Huo zun-zhe's somewhat solemn voice was emitted after Xiao Yan landed on the ground.

Xiao Yan's expression involuntarily changed when he heard this. He also vaguely felt such a feeling during this period of time. However, he did not think too much of it. After all, such a situation did not occur when he had borrowed Yao Lao's Spiritual Strength back then.

Although Xiao Yan was uncertain what had happened, he still nodded his head. Tian Huo zun-zhe would not harm him. Since the latter had said

this, it was naturally not some alarmist words.

“Seems like this act of borrowing the strength of others possesses a great possibility of a sequela. I should be a little more careful in the future...”
Xiao Yan softly exhaled while quietly speaking in his heart.

Xiao Yan remembered this matter within his heart. His gaze swept around him before his body moved and appeared on the steep mountain wall beside the mountain peak. He swung his heavy ruler. Rock fragments flew like bean curds being cut. Finally, he created a small cave which could allow a person to stay in. Currently, the most important thing was to heal the injuries within his body. He might have sent the Wind Lightning Pavilion scattering this time around, but it was likely that they would not just leave things be. However, Xiao Yan was also unafraid of them. The Central Plains were huge. Just this northern region was already vast and endless. Even if the Wind Lightning Pavilion was considered a great strength, it was not as though there were no factions who could fight with it in this northern region. Once Xiao Yan left the territory where its strength was concentrated, they would naturally be unable to do anything to him.

It was likely that once was enough when it came to something like using the Han clan to threaten him. Other people knew that Xiao Yan did not have a deep relationship with the Han clan. It was likely that the Wind Lightning Pavilion would not be so foolish as to pull the same trick a second time. After all, if they did it a second time, they would not only be badmouthed, but the Han clan would likely really become crazy. Even an anxious rabbit knew how to bite someone, much less the Han clan who possessed some face within the Tian Bei City.

Xiao Yan's body moved as these thoughts flashed through his heart. After which, he entered the cave and swiftly sat down. He took out a medicinal pill from his Storage Ring, stuffed it into his mouth, and formed the training seal with both his hands. He slowly descended into a state of recuperation.

The recuperation of Xiao Yan took a total of three days this time around. During these three days, he searched all over his body and did indeed

sense some extremely faint remnant spiritual imprints. The existence of these remnant auras was so faint that they were negligible. However, they were able to burrow deep into one's body. Fortunately, there was only a few remnant spiritual auras. Otherwise, the effects would be extremely serious.

“Indeed... this thing is really troublesome...”

Xiao Yan also laughed bitterly and sighed upon discovering these remnant spiritual imprints. Moreover, when he tried and failed to use Dou Qi or even the ‘Heavenly Flame’ in an attempt to remove them, his bitter smile became even denser. Fortunately, Xiao Yan had discovered this thing quite early. Otherwise, if there even more spiritual imprints had gathered in the future, it was likely that he could only leave the body he had been born with and turn into a spiritual body similar to Tian Huo zun-zhe.

Although there was only a few of these spiritual imprints, it was still a source of trouble. Given Xiao Yan's character, he was naturally unable to endure the existence of this kind of troublesome existence remaining hidden within his body. However, after having tried various methods that all failed, he could only helplessly give up.

Xiao Yan had kept his eyes shut while he remained in the mountain cave. His eyes were slowly opened and his aura had once again returned to its peak condition. Powerful Dou Qi rippled over his fingers when he raised his hand. A nine star Dou Huang was indeed much stronger than a seven star.

“These remnant spiritual imprints might be troublesome, but they are not impossible to remove. I remember that there seemed to be some medicinal pills which could get rid of them...” Xiao Yan opened his eyes as he softly muttered. His finger gently touched the dark-black Storage Ring Yao Lao had left behind. His Spiritual Strength entered it. Inside were the many Medicinal Formulae that Yao Lao had collected over his lifetime. This was a treasure that Yao Lao had left to Xiao Yan. From a certain point of view, it was even more precious than the Bone Chilling Flame...

If these Medicinal Formulae did not exist, Xiao Yan's alchemist journey

would definitely have been much slower. From this, one could tell how important it was.

Xiao Yan searched for nearly an hour. Finally, he, whose body was completely still, opened his eyes in an abrupt manner. A joy was revealed within his eyes. With a swing of his hand, an ancient, black-colored scroll appeared.

“Soul Cleansing Pill, a peak level tier 6 medicinal pill. It is able to clean the body of all the Spiritual Strength that doesn’t belong to it. Moreover, it also possesses the effect of nourishing one’s Spiritual Strength. The ingredients needed to refine it are, Body Cleansing Grass, Ice Fire Soul Merger Fruit, Water Spirit Lotus Seed...”

Xiao Yan’s Spiritual Strength entered the scroll and imprinted all of the information in the medicinal formula into his mind. By the time he got to the effects of the Soul Cleansing Pill, the smile on his face had already become a lot denser.

“Peak of the tier 6 level. It is of a high tier. However, I should be able to refine it. The medicinal ingredients might be a little unorthodox and rare, but I might be able to get ahold of them if I inquire a little. The remnant spiritual imprints in my body have difficulty accomplishing much. There is still sufficient time...” Xiao Yan carefully read the medicinal formula before he muttered to himself.

Xiao Yan sighed in relief after he found a method to resolve the problem. He placed the medicinal formula within his Storage Ring, mused for a moment before beckoning with his hand. Four silver-colored scrolls appeared in front of him.

The scrolls were bright in color. Countless blood-vein-like traces spread around them. At a glance, they possessed a mysterious feeling. These four scrolls were naturally obtained from the hands of the four Elders from the Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion.

“It is likely that these three should be the other portions of the ‘Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body’...”

Xiao Yan flicked his finger and summoned the Earth Demon Puppet.

After which, he tossed the scrolls over. The puppet immediately caught them and opened them as ordered.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

As Xiao Yan had anticipated, the interior of the scrolls hid a fierce strength. Looking at the Earth Demon Puppet, which had been sent flying until it formed a ten-foot-large dent on the wall, Xiao Yan involuntarily laughed, “These people from the Wind Lightning Pavilion are all so insidious...”

Xiao Yan beckoned with his hand and the three silver-colored scrolls were pulled back. His Spiritual Strength swiftly entered one of them.

Following the entry of his Spiritual Strength, the space within the scroll was similar to that within Chen Yun’s scroll. The area below was a lightning pool filled with electric arcs. Xiao Yan familiarly erased the thunderbolt that had been created from Spiritual Strength. Finally, mysterious lightning words appeared on the clear lake’s surface.

Xiao Yan carefully remembered all these words in his mind. Finally, his Spiritual Strength was withdrawn and entered the third scroll followed by the fourth...

Around half an hour or so later, Xiao Yan’s Spiritual Strength slowly withdrew from the fourth scroll. He immediately shut his eyes and arranged the mysterious lightning words that seemed to possess a life of their own.

After arranging them for ten minutes, Xiao Yan once again opened his eyes. His brows were immediately knit together. The four scrolls lightning words seemed to have formed a complete version after merging together. However, for some unknown reason, Xiao Yan had difficulty obtaining the so-called training method from them.

This kind of feeling was as though one had obtained a treasure chest, but lacked a key to it...

“Key...”

Xiao Yan softly muttered in his mouth. A moment later, he suddenly

tightened his hand. That's right. He did indeed lack a key that could transform these mysterious lightning words into a training method. However, he was also unaware of what exactly this key was. It was likely that only those people from the Wind Lightning Pavilion, who were qualified to practice it, were aware of it. However, it was clear that the other party would never inform him about such a secret.

“Ugh, this damn thing...”

Xiao Yan violently clenched his teeth and involuntarily cursed. After spending such a great amount of effort, he ended up with a Di Class High Level Dou Skill he could only look at but not practice. This caused his heart to itch. It was really torture.

“This broken thing is so troublesome. Once the old me obtains the Three Thousand Burning Flame, I will attack your Wind Lightning Pavilion and get you to hand over the training method...”

Xiao Yan cursed indignantly as he returned the scroll to his Storage Ring, feeling extremely helpless as he did so.

“I can only place this thing temporarily aside. Now that I have offended the Wind Lightning Pavilion, it is likely that I can only choose to go into hiding first. I should find a city with a Wormhole and leave this area. The northern region is so large. Even the Wind Lightning pavilion will not be able to intervene... once I have left the Wind Lightning Pavilion's area of influence, I will quickly find the ingredients to help Tian Huo zun-zhe refine a body. He would definitely be a great help. Moreover, I should also think of a way to quickly breakthrough the Dou Huang class and advance to the Dou Zong class. It would be best if this occurs before the Pill Gathering begins...”

Xiao Yan stood up, returned the Earth Demon Puppet into his Storage Ring, and muttered to himself.

Chapter 983: Heavenly Mountain Blood Pool

Bone Transforming City, a city not smaller than Tian Bei City. However, it was quite far from Tian Bei City. It was barely outside of the Wind Lightning Pavilion's influence.

This city was controlled by a faction called the Bone Transforming Gate. Although there were many other factions beneath it, all of them had difficulty contending with the Bone Transforming Gate. Moreover, this Bone Transforming Gate did things in a moderate manner. Although it would occupy a lion's share, it would not swallow all the profits that existed. Hence, it had always been the overlord of the Bone Transforming City during these years. There was seldom any factions who would stand up and challenge them.

The chief of Bone Transforming Gate practiced a water affinity Qi Method and was a little unusual. Hidden force would unknowingly enter his opponent's body before it would gently disperse. If one were to be struck by this force, one's bone would even show signs of weakening. Hence, the Bone Transforming Gate was renowned even among the surrounding cities.

This city was also the first place Xiao Yan had stopped to rest after starting his crazy journey from Tian Bei City. During his journey, he went in the deep mountains and hidden forests as he traveled in a single direction. According to his guess, he should have already left the territory of the Wind Lightning Pavilion. Moreover, he was unfamiliar with this place and did not know the roads. Randomly flying around was not a solution. Hence, he chose to obtain a map of the northern region first. Thus, he would not end up flying around like a housefly without direction.

Moreover, he needed to search for the medicinal ingredients that were necessary to refine the Soul Cleansing Pill as well as to inquire about some information.

The interior of the Bone Transforming City had mainly been decorated

with a pale-white color. At a glance, it seemed as though it was a city completely built from bones. It caused one to feel a faint chill within their hearts when they looked at it. However, the liveliness of the city was not lessened as a result of chill. A noisiness that shot to the sky could be clearly heard even from a great distance.

This was the first time Xiao Yan had entered a human city after having traveled at a crazy pace for a couple of days. He involuntarily felt somewhat unused to the noisiness that he felt. Immediately, he shook his head and walked into the city.

A map of the northern region was not considered an overly rare item. Xiao Yan did not spend much effort before finding a map shop, called Map Court. He entered it, saw the many maps piled within and felt a little absent-minded. When he had met Hai Bodong in the Jia Ma Empire for the first time, he obtained the second map fragment of the Purifying Demonic Lotus Flame from the map shop.

TL: The Purifying Demonic Lotus Flame has been called the Clean Lotus Demon Flame earlier in the story

Xiao Yan helplessly sighed when he thought of the Purifying Demonic Lotus Flame. Ever since he had obtained the third map fragment, he had not been lucky enough to chance upon the fourth map fragment, causing him to feel extremely regretful. The Purifying Demonic Lotus Flame was ranked third on the 'Heavenly Flame' ranking. Even Yao Lao had only heard of its name and had never seen its form. Hence, one could tell just how mysterious and powerful this thing was. If Xiao Yan successfully swallowed it, his strength would soar like crazy. Unfortunately...

Xiao Yan suppressed the sadness in his heart. He slowly walked into the shop. There was an old man in the shop, but he was not some expert. His face had the shrewdness that a merchant ought to have. Xiao Yan glanced over him. The strength of this old man had just reached the Dou Shi's class. It seemed that his training talent was really insignificant.

"This young brother, are you planning to purchase a map?" That old man hurriedly stood up and asked a question with a smile when he saw

Xiao Yan enter.

“Give me the most precise map of the northern region you have.” Xiao Yan nodded and made a request. His gaze slowly swept over the shop carefully. A moment later, he withdrew his gaze with some disappointment. He was foolishly hoping that the matter back then would occur once again.

“Hee hee, young brother, this is the map you requested. It is the most detailed one created by my shop, and it is worth thirty thousand gold coins.” The old man swiftly pulled out an extremely beautiful scroll from a platform and handed it to Xiao Yan before speaking with a smile.

“Thirty thousand gold coins...” Xiao Yan involuntarily rolled his eyes when he heard the price. This old fellow was really merciless when it came to ripping someone off. Xiao Yan randomly opened the map and studied it a little. After finding that it was indeed somewhat detailed, Xiao Yan found he was too lazy to argue with the old man. He handed over the gold coins required, turned around, and started to leave.

“Ke ke, young brother, please wait.” The old man suddenly cried out when he saw Xiao Yan turning around to leave.

“What is it?” Xiao Yan frowned and demanded.

“Hee hee, young brother really looks quite foreign. You should not be a person from the Bone Transforming City, right? Are you also here because of the Heavenly Mountain Blood Pool in the Heaven Eye Mountain Range?” The old man inquired as he smiled.

“Heaven Eye Mountain Range? Heavenly Mountain Blood Pool?” These two names caused Xiao Yan to be startled. Not because they were foreign, but because he had already heard these terms over a dozen times since he had entered the city. However, he was not aware of the mysteries they referred to.

The old man was also startled when he saw Xiao Yan’s expression. He asked in surprise, “Does young brother not even know about the Heaven Eye Mountain Range and the Heavenly Mountain Blood Pool?”

"I only arrived in the northern region recently. Hence, I am not familiar with everything around here. Can boss tell me about it?" Xiao Yan randomly threw over a bag of gold coins. They landed on the counter as he inquired with some interest. He was quite interested in the Heaven Eye Mountain Range since it was a topic many people were talking about.

"The Heavenly Mountain Blood Pool in the Heaven Eye Mountain Range is extremely famous. There are few people within the northern region of the Central Plains who are not aware of it. It is rumored that every three years a natural energy tide appears at the top of a volcano in the mountain range. After the tide is over, the Heaven Mountain Lake within the volcano is filled with a an extremely mysterious red liquid. Moreover, this Heavenly Mountain Blood Pool only remains for five days. After which, it completely disappears." The old man smiled as took the gold coins and spoke with a serious expression.

"What is the use of the blood pool?" Xiao Yan asked.

"It is rumored to be able to help some experts at the peak of the Dou Huang class to breakthrough to the Dou Zong class. Moreover, even if a Dou Zong expert enters the pool, it will wash through and reinforce one's body, allowing one's strength to increase. In any case, the effect of the blood pool is extremely mysterious. Every three years, the Heaven Eye Mountain Range fills with a countless number of people from the northern region of the Central Plains as well as other places. Moreover, next month is coincidentally the time when the three years is up. Hence, there have been many people hurrying to the Heaven Eye Mountain Range recently. Hee hee. However, the Heaven Eye Mountain Range is extremely vast. There are many high rank Magical Beasts within it. The mountain peak is also covered by a fog all year around. Hence, if young brother wishes to head there, you can purchase a map of the Heaven Eye Mountain Range from the old me. It only costs forty thousand gold coins. With the help of the map, you will be able to reach the mountaintop before everyone else." The old man laughed. He explained the situation before finally revealing his cunning intent.

Xiao Yan felt like was not able to laugh nor cry when he heard this. This

old fellow had explained so much because he was promoting his map of the Heaven Eye Mountain Range. However, if Xiao Yan was being honest, the Heavenly Mountain Blood Pool was tempting. No wonder it was able to cause all the people in the city to talk about it with great interest.

Moreover, Xiao Yan was coincidentally a nine star Dou Huang. He was not far from the Dou Zong class. However, if he were to rely on normal training, it would definitely take a long time for him to breakthrough. Yet, Xiao Yan might not have much time to grow...

Even if he forget about there being a little over a year left until the Pill Gathering, he still needed to help Tian Huo zun-zhe refine a body. According to what Yao Lao had mentioned back then, there were three requirements to refine a body. One was the Bone Growing Blood Fusing Pill, two was the essence blood of a rank 7 Magical Beast, and three was the skeleton of an elite Dou Zong. With Xiao Yan's current strength, it was not difficult to obtain the last two. However, the Bone Growing Blood Fusing Pill was a medicinal pill that belonged to the peak of the seventh tier. With Xiao Yan's current medicinal refining ability, it was impossible for him to refine it. Unless he reached the Dou Zong class, his success rate would likely be too low.

"Young brother, the old me is doing this for your own good. The effects of the Heavenly Mountain Blood Pool might be mysterious, but it can, at the very most, be used by ten people. In other words, if you arrive at the Heavenly Mountain Blood Pool after those ten people, you can only look at the empty blood pool and wait another three years..." The old man hurriedly added when he saw that Xiao Yan did not declare his intentions.

"Oh?" Xiao Yan was also startled when he heard these words. Immediately, he nodded with a smile. If this was really the case, he should really make a move ahead of schedule. The effects of the Heavenly Mountain Blood Pool were mysterious. There would definitely be many experts attracted by it. If he were to arrive too late, he might really have to wait another three years.

The old man immediately rejoiced when he saw Xiao Yan nodding his head. He joyfully took out a map and muttered in his heart with a grin. "I

have ripped off another wealthy person. How many has there been today?”

Xiao Yan was naturally unaware of the old man's inner thoughts. Moreover, even if he knew about them, he would be too lazy to find fault with the other party. This map might not be worth so much money, but in his opinion, the situation regarding the Heavenly Mountain Blood Pool was worth far more than money.

Xiao Yan randomly paid the gold coins and put the map into his Storage Ring. After which, he walked out of the shop in front of the old man's smiling eyes.

After having exited the shop, Xiao Yan made a trip around some medicinal shops. It was not a futile one. At the very least, he had managed to obtain the Water Spirit Lotus Seed that he needed to refine the Soul Cleansing Pill. Although it was quite expensive, it was naturally nothing to remiss for someone like Xiao Yan, who was in a hurry to remove the remnant spiritual imprint in his body.

After roaming once around the Bone Transforming City and inquiring about more information, Xiao Yan had a much greater understanding of the so-called Heavenly Mountain Blood Pool. That old man had not deceived him. A month later, the Heavenly Mountain Blood Pool would appear again. Moreover, there were currently a countless number of people from the northern region hurrying to the Heaven Eye Mountain Range.

Xiao Yan stopped in front of an inn in the city. He looked at the many people on the street. There were many people present here whose target was the Heaven Eye Mountain Range.

“I will get moving and head to the Heaven Eye Mountain Range tomorrow after resting for the night here. If I am able to be the first ten to enter the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool, there is a chance that it might help me breakthrough to the Dou Zong class...”

Xiao Yan's heart became boiling hot when he thought of the possibility of him breaking through. This Central Plains was really worthy of being in the middle of the Dou Qi continent. Such a mysterious matter would

seldom occur in other places. However, it had appeared here. Xiao Yan naturally did not intend to give it up...

Chapter 984: Tian Lei Zi

Xiao Yan tidied up his room a little the morning of the next day. After which, he walked out of the room. He did not start his journey right away. Instead, he walked to the second floor of the inn, and randomly found a chair close to a window to sit in.

There were many people in the second story of the inn. It could be considered a place filled with all sorts of people. This place was usually where a great amount of news was passed around. Thus, one would usually find it extremely easy to learn some news here. Additionally, one would not end up stirring any attention from others. Xiao Yan asked for a pot of sake. While he poured it and took a sip, his ears were absorbing all of the conversations amid the noise.

It was just as he had expected. The current focus of the entire Bone Transforming City was on the Heavenly Mountain Blood Pool. The faces of quite a number of people turned red when mentioning it. A dense greed was present on their faces. It seemed that the allure of the Heavenly Mountain Blood Pool was really too great. However, how could such a treasure be encroached upon by these people? They were merely just whining in this place.

“It is rumored that the Wind Lightning Pavilion, Ten Thousand Sword Pavilion, and other stronger factions have dispatched their core elites to head to the Heaven Eye Mountain Range. From the looks of it, they are clearly targeting the Heavenly Mountain Blood Pool.”

“Dammit, with these fellows participating, there will be fewer and fewer of the ten spots left. Not everyone can enter the Heavenly Mountain Blood Pool.”

“Hei, what can we do? The other parties are great factions. It is best for those without ability to not participate in this matter. Otherwise, one would not only fail to benefit, one would also get into trouble.”

Xiao Yan frowned involuntarily when he heard this. It was unexpected that the Heavenly Mountain Blood Pool also possessed an allure to a

faction like the Wind Lightning Pavilion. Would he not end up attracting trouble if he headed out and ended up meeting them.

“The four pavilions in the Central Plains will conduct a competition called the ‘Four Pavilion Heaven’ every few years. Those who participate in this competition are the most outstanding members of the younger generation within each pavilion. It is likely that the Wind Lightning Pavilion and the Ten Thousand Sword Pavilion are heading to the Heavenly Mountain Blood Pool in preparation for it. I wonder if the Yellow Spring Pavilion and the Falling Star Pavilion will participate. The Heavenly Mountain Blood Pool does not have much of an effect on those old fellows; it is a treasure for the younger generation. By soaking in it, one would not only be able to wash one’s bones, but it might even be able to help one breakthrough. There are only a couple of months left before this season’s ‘Four Pavilion Heaven.’ If one could breakthrough at this moment, the pavilion’s chances of victory would greatly soar.” A somewhat skinny-looking man coldly laughed.

“It is rumored that there is a Miss Feng in the Wind Lightning Pavilion who has an extremely frightening training talent. There are even rumors that she will be the next pavilion head of the eastern pavilion. Moreover, the Ten Thousand Sword Pavilion is also quite strong. Tang Ying, who is known as Sky Fountain Sword, uses extremely mysterious, skillful sword techniques. He is even able to exchange blows with some of the experts from the older generation. They could be called the top of the younger generation in the northern region. I wonder who will win if they end up meeting in a fight.”

“Chi, these two people might be strong, but they seem to be a little inferior when compared to the recent individual called Xiao Yan. The Central Plains are filled with hidden talents. Who dares to call himself the strongest?” A man with a scar on his face laughed.

“Xiao Yan? Is he the one who killed Chen Yun from the Wind Lightning Pavilion and forcefully broke the Nine Heavenly Lightning Prison Formation the remaining three Elders had set up?”

“Hee hee hee hee hee hee, that’s right. All of you did not see the big

battle in Tian Bei City back then. That was damn interesting. That fellow looked to be only in his twenties, but his strength was absolutely terrifying. He relied on his own strength to fight against three great Dou Zongs. Moreover, the ancestor of the Hong clan, Hong Tian Xiao, also came to an extremely miserable end. Who are Miss Feng and Tang Ying compared to him?”

“You cannot put it this way. Although that Xiao Yan is very strong, Miss Feng and Tang Ying are not weak either. According to what I know, Xiao Yan used a kind of unknown secret technique back then to forcefully raise his strength. Otherwise, he would have difficulty fighting against three great Dou Zongs.”

Xiao Yan was involuntarily startled when he heard the conversation suddenly focus on him. He immediately let out a bitter smile, took out a Doupeng from his Storage Ring and quietly put it on his head. He did not wish to end up exposing his identity, attracting unnecessary trouble.

Xiao Yan listened for a little longer and was planning to leave when a silver-colored figure slowly appeared on the stairs of the inn. After which, the figure climbed to the second floor.

The second story of the inn had become a lot quieter following the appearance of this silver-colored figure. An aura that caused one to feel pressure vaguely seeped out of the figure’s body. At a glance, one could tell that this figure was not an ordinary person.

It was difficult to tell the age of the silver-colored human figure. His face seemed somewhat young, but his hair was an old-white color that faintly gave him an elderly appearance. The most shocking thing was that this person possessed a pair of extremely rare white-colored eyes.

The silver-colored figure’s gaze slowly swept around him after he had climbed the stairs. After which, he walked to a window. A moment later, he paused beside the table Xiao Yan was occupying.

“May I have a seat?”

The silver-colored human figure smiled to Xiao Yan. However, despite what his question and tone suggested, he had already sat opposite of Xiao

Yan.

Everyone's gazes were involuntarily shot toward Xiao Yan when they saw this person sit opposite him. They only began to turn away after seeing that Xiao Yan did not react. A noisiness started up once again.

Xiao Yan raised his head. He glanced at the other party somewhat uncertainly. He was certain that he had never met this person. When he was just about to speak, Tian Huo zun-zhe's solemn voice suddenly sounded quietly within his heart.

"Xiao Yan, be careful. This person's strength is extremely frightening!"

Xiao Yan tightened his grip on his winecup and a ripple was formed within it. By being able to get Tian Huo zun-zhe to say such words, it was clear that the other party's strength was likely not one he could contend with.

On the surface, however, Xiao Yan remained impassive. He smiled and said, "I did not reserve the seat you. You can sit if you want to. However, I still have some other matters to deal with and cannot stay for long. Goodbye."

"You are not afraid of the Nine Heavenly Lightning Prison Formation that the three Elders from the Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion formed. Don't tell me that you are afraid of me?" The silver-colored human figure smiled. His voice had suddenly become a lot louder and clearer, suppressing all the noise on the second floor of the inn. Immediately, numerous stunned gazes were thrown over before pausing on Xiao Yan.

"He, don't tell me that he is Xiao Yan?"

The expression under the Doupeng had gradually become darker and more solemn. Xiao Yan's eyes stared at the silver-colored human figure opposite him as he slowly asked, "Just what great being are you? Tell me your name. Hiding around is not the style of a skilled person."

"Ha ha ha ha, I cannot be considered a skilled person. The reason I have come here is mainly to demand something from you." The silver-robed man lifted his wine cup and laughed.

“What thing?” Xiao Yan narrowed his eyes. The Dou Qi within his body had slowly begun circulating. As the saying went, those who come do not have good intent and those with good intent do not come. This person was clearly targeting him. Moreover, from this manner of his, it was likely that he was not here to make friends.

“Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body.”

The silver-robed man smiled faintly to Xiao Yan. However, his soft voice caused Xiao Yan to suddenly stand up. A deep voice demanded, “You are someone from the Wind Lightning Pavilion?”

“Other people call the old me Tian Lei Zi.” The silver-robed man’s finger was inserted into the cup and a lightning arc shuttled around the cup like a small snake.

“Tian Lei Zi, Fei Tian, the pavilion head of the Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion?”

The silver-robed man’s words had just sounded when waves of the sound wine cups make while falling appeared. Immediately, numerous shocked exclamations were involuntarily emitted.

Xiao Yan’s eyes suddenly shrank when he heard the final few words: ‘head of the Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion.’ The Heavy Xuan Ruler had appeared like a reflex action. His ruler violently hacked at the head of the silver-robed man in a violent manner. A sonic boom was formed on the ruler, shattering the table into powder despite being some distance away.

“It is really a little rude to treat an old man like you do.”

The silver-robed man faintly smiled. His finger was gently flicked and a bright lightning glow shot out from it. It collided with the heavy ruler. The lightning glow was just like a poisonous snake that burrowed into Xiao Yan’s hand.

“Hmph!”

Xiao Yan let out a cold snort when he saw this. A jade-green flame surged out of his hand and collided with the lightning glow. A thunderclap

sounded and both were eliminated.

“It is indeed a ‘Heavenly Flame.’ However, given my eyesight, I am unable to see where it belongs to on the ‘Heavenly Flame Ranking...’” Surprise flashed across the silver-robed man’s eyes when he saw the jade-green flame. He whispered.

Xiao Yan swiftly stored away his heavy ruler after his futile attack. His body trembled and a rumbling thunder sounded and his body charged out of the window. With a shake of his back, the bone wings were extended. Finally, he transformed into a ray of light, that shot out of the city with a swoosh sound. The frightening speed left anyone watching speechless.

“It is indeed the Three Thousand Lightning Movement!”

That silver-robed man was not in a hurry to give chase when he saw Xiao Yan flee. He drank all of the wine in the wine pot in one go before slowly standing up. The corner of his mouth was lifted into a cold smile as he looked in the direction Xiao Yan had fled.

“Little fellow, you won’t be able to escape. It is indeed as Elder Lei and the others described. You possess a couple of ‘Heavenly Flames’ in your body. If I have guessed correctly, the jade-green ‘Heavenly Flame,’ which I have never seen before, should be something formed from the merger of ‘Heavenly Flames.’

“Tsk tsk, the old me has never even heard of a Qi Method that can merge ‘Heavenly Flames’ in my entire life. It is really an eye-opener this time around.”

Fei Tian smiled. There was an extremely interested expression within those silver-white eyes. He immediately stepped forward and his body quietly disappeared in a ghost-like manner.

Only after Fei Tian disappeared did the completely silent second story of the inn gradually recover. Everyone looked at each other with shock. It was unexpected that they would actually meet this legendary old demon today. Moreover, they were also extremely surprised that this old demon was personally chasing Xiao Yan.

“It is likely that the little fellow is going to be extremely unlucky this time around. This old demon Fei Tian is rumored to have become an eight star Dou Zong a number of years ago. However, by being able to get this old demon Fei Tian to act personally, it is already sufficient for his name to be known throughout the entire northern region... such a treatment is not something an ordinary person can enjoy.”

There were some sighs vaguely emitted from the crowd.

Chapter 985: Chased With Killing Intent

A ray of light rushed outside Bone Transforming City in a lightning-like manner. In the blink of an eye, it charged into the mountain range that was outside of the city.

Xiao Yan activated his bone wings to their maximum strength, raising his speed to a frightening extent. His expression was a little gloomy as his figure rushed forward. Although he did not sense Fei Tian giving chase, he did not think that young-looking old fellow would give up so easily.

“Just how did this old fellow find me? I have been traveling through the deep mountains and old forests during this period of time. It is impossible for the people from the Wind Lightning Pavilion to discover me.”

Some doubt appeared in Xiao Yan’s heart as his figure flashed. The northern region of the Central Plains was so large. Regardless of how capable Fei Tian was, it was impossible for this person to find him in a sea of people without reason. Moreover, looking at his manner earlier, it was clear that this person was already aware of his position. Could he have been discovered by the spies from the Wind Lightning Pavilion when he had entered the city yesterday? Even if that was the case, this place was already beyond the territory of the Wind Lightning Pavilion. It was impossible for a spy from the Wind Lightning Pavilion to pass the information back to the Wind Lightning Pavilion within a day even if that spy had discovered him..

Doubt appeared in Xiao Yan’s heart. He involuntarily felt a sense of danger. That fellow might appear like a light breeze, but he actually gave Xiao Yan a dangerous feeling. This kind of feeling was something that Xiao Yan had seldom sensed on anyone except the unfathomable Qian Bai Elders and the Old Ground Demon Ghost.

“This old fellow’s strength is at least that of an eight star Dou Zong. Even if I used Tian Huo zun-zhe’s strength it would be difficult for me to face him head-on unless I used the Extermination Fire Lotus, but that is ultimately my life preservation skill. Unless it is absolutely necessary, it is

best not to use it...”

These thoughts flew swiftly across Xiao Yan’s heart. However, his speed was not the least bit reduced. His body was just like a meteorite that disappeared into the horizon in the blink of an eye.

“That old fellow... has really given up chasing after me?”

Xiao Yan flew wildly for nearly ten plus minutes. His eyebrows were knit even more tightly when he saw that no one had given chase. Finally, he muttered in a soft voice.

“The old me said that you won’t be able to escape...”

A faint laugh was suddenly transmitted from a distance while Xiao Yan was softly muttering to himself. His body stiffened. Immediately, his eyes shrank and locked onto a mountain peak in front of him. The silver-robed Fei Tian was standing there with his hands behind his back. His silver-white eyes were mocking Xiao Yan.

“This old fellow’s speed is really frightening...” Xiao Yan inhaled a breath of cool air. His expression had become solemn. It seemed that there would likely be some trouble today.

“You might possess the Three Thousand Lightning Movement and those mysterious bone wings. However, you have chosen the wrong target if you wish to compete with the old me in terms of speed.” Fei Tian smiled as he spoke.

“Just what are you planning to do?” Xiao Yan cried out in a deep voice. His eyes swept all around him without leaving a trace, searching for a route to flee.

“Hand over the Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body to the old me. You might have gathered the four scrolls, but it is still impossible for you to practice it. Hence, it is a waste leaving them on you.” Fei Tian spoke in a faint voice.

“You will allow me to leave if I return the Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body to you?” Xiao Yan’s eyes narrowed as he slowly asked.

Fei Tian merely smiled when he heard this. He gently stepped forward and his body appeared a hundred meters away from Xiao Yan in a strange manner. He laughed, "The old me is also interested in your Qi Method that can merge 'Heavenly Flames.' I might let you go if you hand it over to me."

Xiao Yan's expression had completely turned gloomy when he heard these words. Flame Mantra was his greatest support. The reason he had been able to reach this level today was largely because of Flame Mantra. If this fellow wanted to snatch Flame Mantra from him, it was little different than taking his life away. Moreover, it was impossible for Xiao Yan to hand over such a mysterious Qi Method like the Flame Mantra to an outsider, and the Wind Lightning Pavilion could be considered his enemy.

"The old me knows that you possess an extremely powerful spiritual body in your body. I am able to vaguely sense its existence. However, a spiritual body is ultimately just a spiritual body. If he had been more than a spiritual body, the old me would likely have to withdraw today. Unfortunately..." Fei Tian was unconcerned when he saw Xiao Yan's gloomy expression. His gaze slowly drifted over Xiao Yan's body before finally pausing on the snow-white Storage Ring on his finger. He laughed in a faint voice.

"Hmph, what arrogant words. If the old me was in an actual body, would he dare to stand in front of me now?" The snow-white ring trembled slightly and Tian Huo zun-zhe's spirit slowly rose. He looked at Fei Tian across from him and coldly laughed.

Fei Tian's expression changed a little. His gaze slowly swept over Tian Huo zun-zhe. This person was already able to reach such a level by just being a spiritual body. This person was definitely a Dou Zun class ultimate expert when he was alive.

"A hero doesn't mention his old achievements. There is no 'if' when it comes to the matters of this world. Regardless of how great you were when you were alive, the current you is merely a spiritual body..." A gradual coldness also surfaced in Fei Tian's indifferent voice. "Xiao Yan, as long as you hand over the Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body and the Qi Method you practice, the old me shall allow you to leave. This

spiritual body cannot protect your life!”

“A mere eight star Dou Zong also dares to act so arrogant in front of the old me...” Tian Huo zun-zhe angrily laughed. He turned his head to Xiao Yan and softly said, “Leave first. I will block him.”

Xiao Yan was startled when he heard these words. Although he really disliked that old demon Fei Tian, he knew that what he had said was true. The current Tian Huo zun-zhe at the very most had a strength similar to Fei Tian. Moreover, he was at a disadvantage since he was a spiritual body. If they were to fight, Tian Huo zun-zhe’s chances of victory were very slim.

“Relax, I know my limits. I will only block him for awhile. There is no need for you to worry. That ring of mine has my spiritual imprint. I have my own method of shaking him off.” Tian Huo zun-zhe continued, aware of the worry in Xiao Yan’s heart.

Xiao Yan hesitated for a moment when he heard him. He soon violently nodded. He was indeed of little help by remaining here. He ceased hesitating, opened his bone wings, and flapped with all his might, transforming into a ray of light that wildly rushed in another direction.

Fei Tian knit his brows slightly when he saw Xiao Yan flee. His feet stepped forward and was just about to give chase when he realized that the surrounding space had actually become distorted.

“It has been many years since I have fought with someone. Allow me to test your skills today!”

Tian Huo zun-zhe somewhat illusionary figure slowly appeared in front of Fei Tian. He clenched his hand and a longsword that was agglomerated from Spiritual Strength appeared.

“Regardless of how you block me, he will ultimately be unable to escape my palm...”

Fei Tian coldly laughed. His body shook and a bright lightning glow surged of him in a cackling manner. Following the appearance of the lightning glow, the clouds in the sky above gradually became dark. Silver serpent-like lightning was vaguely shuttling within it. This old demon had

actually reached the stage where he could use his own Dou Qi to communicate with natural energy...

Fei Tian's hand reached forward. A lightning glow flashed and a long spear that was agglomerated from lightning appeared with a 'chi chi' sound. The body of the spear shook along with space itself.

Tian Huo zun-zhe was not afraid despite seeing this strong skill of Fei Tian. He let out a loud laugh as his majestic Spiritual Strength swept out. His body moved and the spiritual longsword pierced forward while forming numerous spiritual ripples.

Fei Tian laughed in the face of Tian Huo zun-zhe's attack. The lightning spear in his hand carried an incomparable lightning Dou Qi which emitted a repeated 'chi chi' sound. Finally, it was violently swung out.

"Clang!"

The clear sound of a collision resounded across the entire sky. In the face of this strange sonic wave, some of the weaker Magical Beast in the mountain range below felt a crack in their head before bursting apart.

The strength that was exchanged between the two was actually this terrifying!

.....

Xiao Yan's figure was rushing forward like a ray of light. He had also sensed a little of the change in the sky far behind him. However, he did not turn around. Tian Huo zun-zhe had put in a great amount of effort to buy him some time. Turning around would be the most foolish decision.

"Old bastard, I shall remember today's grudge. I will definitely repay you in the future!"

Xiao Yan clenched his teeth. His expression was a little ferocious. That old fellow had actually targeted the Flame Mantra. This had completely infuriated Xiao Yan.

Killing intent churned in Xiao Yan's heart. However, his speed was not reduced by even a little. With a 'swoosh' sound, the light ray flew across

the sky, instantly disappearing on the edge of the mountain range.

This all out flying continued for nearly twenty minutes or so when the space in front of Xiao Yan became distorted. Immediately, a Spiritual Strength came out of the space. It was surprisingly Tian Huo zun-zhe, who had stayed behind to block Fei Tian earlier. At this moment, Tian Huo zun-zhe's expression was a little solemn. His figure also seemed paler than it had been earlier. From the looks of it, he had experienced a violent fight with that old demon Fei Tian during these twenty minutes.

"Leave quickly, teleportation through space is something that only an elite Dou Zun can do. If I had not reached the Dou Zun level and am currently a spiritual body, it is likely that I would have difficulty using it. However, that fellow's speed is extremely frightening. It is likely that he will catch up within a short while." Tian Huo zun-zhe urged in an anxious voice the moment he appeared.

Xiao Yan nodded his head. He was just about to move when a thought suddenly flashed through his heart. He spoke in a solemn voice, "Something's wrong... I have a feeling that the old fellow has locked onto my location... I think that it is likely that I am in possession of something that is directing him to our location..."

Hearing this, Tian Huo zun-zhe also nodded while deeply thinking. No wonder that fellow dared to say that Xiao Yan would not be able to escape him.

"I am certain that my body doesn't have any tracking seal. Yet, he is still aware of my location... in other words, it is something else..."

A flicker flashed swiftly in Xiao Yan's eyes. Soon after, he waved his hand and the four silver-colored scrolls appeared in his hand. His gaze stared intently at the scrolls before gritting his teeth and tossing them violently. The four scrolls immediately shot out in four different directions, transforming into four silver lights as they did so.

"Old bastard, I want to see just how you will give chase now!"

Chapter 986: Unravel

The space in the sky above a lush green mountain range fluctuated. Soon after, a silver-colored figure slowly appeared.

Fei Tian's expression suddenly changed as his figure appeared. He discovered that the thread of spiritual feeling had been split into four. Moreover, each of them was flying in a different direction.

"Has he discovered it... this brat is actually willing to abandon such a treasure..."

The smile on Fei Tian's face slowly turned gloomy. The reason he had been able to accurately tell Xiao Yan's location earlier was because he was relying on the special imprint within those four scrolls. It was unexpected that this was also discovered by Xiao Yan. Moreover, they were abandoned in such a decisive fashion.

Fei Tian's gaze was gloomy as he stared off into the distance in front of him. He knew that Xiao Yan was fleeing that way. However, if he were to continue giving chase, it was likely that those four Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body would fall into the hands of others. Thus, there would be some other troubles. If he were to allow Xiao Yan to escape, however, he would have difficulty calming his anger. Moreover, he was also extremely interested in the mysterious Qi Method Xiao Yan practiced, that could merge 'Heavenly Flames.'

Fei Tian gently exhaled a breath of air as his eyes flickered slightly. He spoke in a dense voice, "Brat, if you think that you can shake me off with such a simple trick, it is likely that you have really underestimated this chief!"

Fei Tian's hand seal suddenly moved when his words sounded. Dazzling unusual seals were formed in a lightning-like manner. His expression was stern as he coldly cried out, "Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body! Appear!"

An invisible strength suddenly surged from Fei Tian's body after his cry sounded. A strange fluctuation occurred, agglomerating into an avatar

that was exactly the same as Fei Tian. The thing that was most shocking was that the aura of this avatar was also extremely powerful. Although it was inferior to the actual Fei Tian, it was also an elite Dou Zong which far exceeded the strength of the four great Elders from the Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion.

“Unfortunately, my Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body has yet to reach complete mastery. Regardless of how cunning that fellow is, he will have difficulty escaping alive...”

Fei Tian looked at the avatar beside him and shook his head. He faintly commanded, “You will go and chase after that brat. I will go and chase after those scrolls. There is no need for you to fight head-on against them. All you need to do is delay them.”

“Relax...”

Fei Tian’s avatar let out a faint smile. His expression was exactly the same as the actual body. Moreover, his silver-white eyes were filled with an intelligence. It was completely different than the emptiness the other avatar had. It seemed that this Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body had some profoundness to it. It was indeed worthy of a mysterious Dou Skill that was comparable to a Tian class Qi Method.

Fei Tian nodded. He ceased speaking as he turned around. Space trembled and his body slowly disappeared. Following the disappearance of Fei Tian’s body, that avatar also turned his head and threw his gaze in the direction Xiao Yan was fleeing. He let out a cold laugh as his body emitted a ‘bang’ and transformed into nothing.

A ray of light flashed through the completely clear sky while the faint sound of thunder was emitted from it.

“Fei Tian’s aura is gradually disappearing. It is likely that he has gone to pursue the four scrolls. There is indeed a problem with those things...” Xiao Yan glanced behind him while he was flying with all his might. He sighed in relief. Although it was a pity to toss those things aside, it was fortunate that he had already remembered all the contents in his mind.

“Yes, his aura has indeed headed in another direction. It seems that we

have shaken him off... be careful!"

Tian Huo zun-zhe's words had just sounded when his voice suddenly changed. Immediately, a powerful Spiritual Strength surged out of the snow-white ring and violently smashed against empty space.

"Bang!"

The empty space where the Spiritual Strength collided immediately fluctuated. The space became distorted and a figure with a vague lightning glow lingering over it slowly appeared. It was surprisingly Fei Tian!

Xiao Yan's expression also suddenly changed. His figure instantly pulled back. He had never expected this fellow to actually give chase.

"The old me said that you will never be able to escape from my hands..."

Fei Tian's eyes were ice-cold. He stared at Xiao Yan as he slowly spoke.

Xiao Yan clenched his fist slightly and coldly smiled. "It seems that you really do not want the Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body scrolls..."

Fei Tian merely smiled when he heard this. His smile contained a little ridicule as he said, "The scrolls will return and you will also not be able to escape."

"Something's wrong. This fellow's aura is much weaker and is far from what he was earlier. The current him is at most a six star Dou Zong!" Tian Huo zun-zhe's spirit suddenly appeared. He frowned, looked at Fei Tian, and spoke in a solemn voice.

Xiao Yan's eyes narrowed. A thought passed through his heart before he involuntarily cried out, "Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body? He is merely an avatar of Fei Tian!"

"It looks like you do have some understanding of the Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body..." Fei Tian laughed.

"Kill him, he is delaying time. Fei Tian's actual body has definitely gone to pursue those scrolls. Once the actual body hurries over, we will really be unable to escape!" Xiao Yan hurriedly said.

Xiao Yan's voice had just sounded when Tian Huo zun-zhe by the side rushed out with a 'swoosh' sound. Majestic Spiritual Strength surged out and shook the entire space until it fluctuated.

Fei Tian merely laughed when he saw Tian Huo zun-zhe rushing over. The lightning glow on his body flowed and an enormous lightning flickered on his palm. His body moved and also charged out. Finally, he collided violently with the spiritual body. An enormous energy wave and a loud thunderous roar immediately resounded over the mountain range.

Xiao Yan hurriedly pulled back while watching the two people engaged in a ruthless fight. His gaze was staring intently at the battle circle.

Although Tian Huo zun-zhe's strength was similar to Fei Tian's actual body, this avatar was clearly no match for him. Hence, after a short dozen exchanges, Fei Tian's avatar had fallen to a disadvantage. Despite this being the case, Xiao Yan's heart became more and more anxious. He knew that with Fei Tian's speed, it was likely it would only take him a short while to catch up to those scrolls. Once he got those scroll he would come here, it was likely that it would be even more difficult for them to escape today.

"Old mister Yao, faster. This avatar's intention is clearly to hold us back!" Xiao Yan cried out in a deep voice.

Tian Huo zun-zhe nodded gently upon hearing this. His body shook and disappeared in a strange manner. Immediately, he came rushing out of a space behind Fei Tian's avatar. A palm that was filled with surging Spiritual Strength mercilessly imprinted itself on the back of Fei Tian's avatar in a lightning-like manner.

"Bang!"

A low muffled sound appeared and a lightning swiftly flowed over Fei Tian's avatar. The lightning glow dimmed, revealing the somewhat illusionary body.

Xiao Yan's eyes immediately shrank upon seeing the illusory figure under the lightning glow. The energy that had seeped out from the dim lightning glow was something that he was extremely familiar with. It was

clearly fluctuating Spiritual Strength!

“This avatar is agglomerated from his spirit?”

This thought came flashed within Xiao Yan’s heart in a lightning-like manner. His gaze swept over the sky behind him as he suddenly clenched his teeth and shouted, “Old mister Yao, lend me your strength. I will fight!”

Tian Huo zun-zhe was startled upon hearing Xiao Yan’s cry. He swiftly withdrew. After which, his illusionary body shook and merged into Xiao Yan’s body.

With the merger of Tian Huo zun-zhe, Xiao Yan’s aura appeared to be just like a mountain that had risen from flat plains as it abruptly soared. His expression was cold. Xiao Yan clenched his hand and the invisible Fallen Heart Flame immediately surged in all directions. He flicked his finger and the flame emitted a low whistle before transforming into a couple of enormous fire pythons that twirled and shot out.

“Fallen Heart Flame?”

Fei Tian’s body immediately cried out in surprise upon seeing the invisible flame. A fear flashed across his eyes as his body rushed back. With his experience, he was naturally aware that the Fallen Heart Flame could burn and injure a spirit. It was known as the nemesis of spirits.

“You wish to escape?”

Xiao Yan merely laughed upon seeing this. After borrowing Tian Huo zun-zhe’s Spiritual Strength, Xiao Yan’s strength was already no longer weaker than Fei Tian’s avatar. The seal he formed with his hands changed and the speed of the fire python soared. Finally, it ruthlessly smashed into Fei Tian’s body in a lightning-like manner.

“Bang!”

The fire python collided with Fei Tian’s avatar, and the lightning glow covering his body immediately vanished. Before he could retreat, an invisible fire python quickly gave chase and once again ruthlessly collided with him.

“Ah!”

Having lost the protection of the lightning glow, Fei Tian’s avatar ended up colliding head-on with the Fallen Heart Flame. Immediately, he emitted a miserable cry and the avatar swiftly became much paler.

“Bang! Bang! Bang!”

Xiao Yan’s hands danced. He did not give up this opportunity to beat Fei Tian up when he was down. A couple of fire pythons, formed from the Fallen Heart Flame, shot out and crashed into Fei Tian’s avatar, sending him back a couple hundred meters.

When the final fire python exploded on Fei Tian’s body, Xiao Yan’s figure also vanished in a strange fashion. The next time he appeared, Xiao Yan was already in front of the illusionary Fei Tian. He coldly laughed, “It’s over!”

Xiao Yan’s voice sounded as his fist, which was wrapped in a dense Fallen Heart Flame, violently struck out. It penetrated Fei Tian’s avatar’s chest.

“Little bastard, you will not be able to escape!”

Fei Tian’s figure swiftly became illusionary under the grilling of the Fallen Heart Flame as he shouted with a savage face.

Xiao Yan was expressionless. His hand was tightened and Fei Tian’s avatar suddenly exploded, transforming into illusionary light that scattered.

Xiao Yan seemed to have understood something as he watched the scattering light spots. He reached out and an invisible energy shot out of the light spot. This energy was accurately pulled toward Xiao Yan’s hand.

The invisible energy had just landed in Xiao Yan’s hand when it transformed into information that entered his palm and invaded his mind.

With the entrance of this information, the lightning words in Xiao Yan’s mind, that had been difficult to unravel, immediately emitted an intense glow. A moment later, the glow weakened and a complete training method

slowly appeared...

Xiao Yan's mind was a little dull as he stares at this complete training method that had appeared. His heart suddenly pounded. It was unexpected that he had unintentionally obtained the key to open the Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body from Fei Tian's avatar...

"Old fellow, ha ha, thank you for your gift. I will repay you this favor in the future!"

Xiao Yan was dull for a moment before he uncontrollably laughed in the sky. His body moved, transforming into a ray of light that swiftly disappeared into the horizon.

The space rippled slightly a couple of minutes after Xiao Yan disappeared. A ferocious looking Fei Tian slowly appeared. His gaze swept all around him, but he had completely lost Xiao Yan's aura. Immediately, his furious roar resounded over the mountain forest.

"Brat! I will take your life the next time we meet!"

Chapter 987: Bitter Training in the Forest

A human figure, concealed under dense tree branches within a thick forest, revealed a pair of eyes that stared intently at the sky. His aura was completely hidden under a majestic Spiritual Strength.

Although Xiao Yan had escaped the area Fei Tian could sense him, he clearly knew just how frightening this old fellow's speed was. Hence, he immediately changed directions after having left the scope of Fei Tian's sensing abilities, and had swiftly entered the forest. After which, he borrowed Tian Huo zun-zhe's strength and perfectly hid his aura.

It had been over ten minutes since Xiao Yan had concealed himself in this place. During this period of time, he had remained as still as a statue. His entire body was covered by lush green leaves. This, along with the concealment of his aura, would likely make it extremely difficult for Fei Tian to detect him despite his great strength.

Such a quiet wait continued for a couple of minutes when the distant sky suddenly rippled. Immediately, a ferocious-looking Fei Tian appeared. His dense gaze slowly swept over the forest below before letting out a furious roar. With a violent wave of his sleeve, a majestic Dou Qi pillar shot out and flattened the forest within a hundred meter radius. Only after he had vented his anger did his gaze viciously turn to another direction. His body moved and slowly disappeared.

Xiao Yan did not move even a little ever since Fei Tian appeared and disappeared. He knew just how frightening an eight star Dou Zong was. His perception was so sharp that it was terrifying. Any slight movement would alert him. Moreover, with Fei Tian's speed, there would be little opportunity to flee upon being discovered...

Xiao Yan still maintained his completely still position after Fei Tian left. This continued for around two hours or so before his body slightly moved. Xiao Yan gently leaped down from the tree branch and landed on the ground without emitting the slightest noise. He cautiously swept his gaze around him when he landed. Only then did he transform into a blurry

figure that swiftly entered deep into the forest.

Xiao Yan shuttled through the forest for awhile. He tried his best to dodge the Magical Beasts he met along the way. Those he was unable to dodge were quickly finished off. Xiao Yan would kill the beast before it could emit a roar. After shuffling through the forest, a mountain peak finally appeared in front of him.

Xiao Yan agily leaped toward the mountain peak. He found a safe place halfway up the mountain. Only then did he sigh in relief, appearing to have released a great burden as he did so. He sat down in a manner that seemed to indicate that he had collapsed from exhaustion. The chase today had really caused his mind to completely tense up.

Today was perhaps the most dangerous experience Xiao Yan had faced since he had arrived in the Central Plains. If he had not decisively tossed aside the scrolls, it was likely that he would have difficulty fleeing from Fei Tian. Unless Xiao Yan used the Extermination Fire Lotus, he would have a difficult time defeating an eight star Dou Zong. However, the Extermination Lotus Flame was a powerful killing move and would exhaust him. Once it was displayed, Xiao Yan would enter his weakest state. Hence, unless it came to a critical point where he had no choice, Xiao Yan would not use it.

Moreover, Xiao Yan was restricted to only one Extermination Fire Lotus because of the amount of Life Transforming Flame that he had left. Additionally, Xiao Yan did not have the time to practice that 'Flame Creation Skill.' He had also not refined a new 'Life Transforming Flame.' Hence, he could use such a killing move to preserve his life only once during this short period of time...

"Looks like I will need to find an opportunity to practice the 'Flame Creation Skill.' That little Life Transforming Flame is really insufficient..."

Xiao Yan sighed and sat down. He let out a deep breath and summoned the Earth Demon Puppet with a wave of his hand. He ordered it to guard him before he gradually shut his eyes and begin to carefully study the 'Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body' training method, that had

already changed its shape within his head.

Due to the information from Fei Tian's spirit, the profound and difficult to understand lightning words within Xiao Yan's mind had been unraveled. Replacing the jumbled mess was a complete training method Xiao Yan could use.

Time quickly flew by while Xiao Yan's heart slowly sank into the Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body training method. It appeared as though only an instant had past. Yet, the night sky in the outside world had already turned completely dark.

Within the darkness, Xiao Yan, who had not moved for an entire night, finally shook his hand. He slowly opened his eyes. Some astonishment was visible in them.

This Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body was indeed extremely mysterious. Moreover, the thing that surprised Xiao Yan the most was the harsh requirement of Spiritual Strength. No wonder there was hardly anyone within the Wind Lightning Pavilion who was able to successfully practice this skill. Other than some with extremely abnormal strength, how could an ordinary person achieve such a harsh Spiritual Strength requirement? Even if one managed to meet the requirement, the formation of the avatar was also quite difficult.

Originally, Xiao Yan had felt somewhat surprised that the Three Thousand Lightning Movement was actually related to it. Only by reading the Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body did Xiao Yan understand that the formation of this avatar would only have a slight chance of being successful when one had reached the highest level of the Three Thousand Lightning Movement.

Moreover, even if one successfully created it, this avatar was also divided into three categories, entry level, intermediate level, and mastery level.

These three categories represented the strength of the avatar. An entry level avatar would at most possess one-third of the actual body's strength. An intermediate level would possess around two-thirds of the actual body's strength while the mastery level would mean the avatar possessed

a similar strength to the actual body...

“It is likely that Fei Tian’s Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body back then should be at the intermediate level. Otherwise, even if I possessed the help of the Fallen Heart Flame, it would not have been possible for me to defeat it in such an easy manner.” Xiao Yan softly muttered.

“However, this Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body does indeed have areas where it surpasses others. I really don’t know just what kind of outstanding person was able to create such a mysterious Dou Technique.” Xiao Yan stood up. A bright silver glow surged under his feet. Immediately, his eyes coagulated and his body shot forth.

A couple of afterimages immediately appeared behind Xiao Yan after his body shot out. His footsteps paused and hurriedly turned his head around, only to see the afterimages gradually disappearing. The situation that was mentioned in the training method did not occur.

“The agglomeration of an avatar is indeed difficult...”

Xiao Yan frowned slightly. His mouth softly muttered the requirements recorded in the training method, “Using one’s heart to form the shape and leave one’s spirit within the figure...”

Xiao Yan repeated this over a dozen times. Suddenly, he understood something. His eyes were slowly shut and his foot gently stepped forward. When his feet landed, his body appeared dozens of meters away in a lightning-like manner. Four afterimages were left behind along the way.

Three of the four afterimages swiftly scattered. However, the rate the last afterimage was disappearing was much slower. However, it remained for only around twenty seconds or so before it slowly turned into nothingness. Xiao Yan could vaguely sense a thread of extremely slight spiritual ripple from the interior of this afterimage.

“I must leave a thread of Spiritual Strength within the afterimage the moment that it appears. Only then will it be possible to form an afterimage. However, one must be extremely fast at that moment. Otherwise, how could it be possible to leave behind a spirit within the

afterimage in time?” Xiao Yan frowned and muttered.

Xiao Yan thought bitterly for awhile and could only softly sigh after his futile attempt. The training of this Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body was indeed difficult. However, he would not give up so simply. He had confidence in himself. Regardless of how difficult it was to practice this Three Thousand Lightning Movement, he would successfully learn it. When he meet that old fellow Fei Tian the next time around, he wondered if that old fellow would end up vomiting blood in anger after he created an avatar.

Xiao Yan gloatingly laughed. A stubbornness had been stirred in Xiao Yan to learn this skill. He clenched his teeth, once again braced his attention, and continued to use the Three Thousand Lightning Movement. If he failed once, he would try a hundred times. If he failed a hundred times, he would try a thousand times. Although the Three Thousand Lightning Movement exhausted a great amount of Dou Qi, Xiao Yan was not bothered as long as he was able to successfully learn the skill.

Xiao Yan made up his mind within his heart. He had also completely given up on resting. Hence, numerous silver glows were occasionally released within the dark forest, appearing like ghost flames. Fortunately, this place was void of anyone. Otherwise, anyone who saw this scene in the middle of the night would receive a great shock.

Xiao Yan’s somewhat crazy training continued for an entire night. Only when the morning sun broke through the darkness, scattering over the land, did he finally stop to catch his breath. He wiped the cold perspiration off his forehead and involuntarily laughed. Although he had failed to successfully agglomerate an avatar after a night of bitter training, he was becoming familiar with his control of the Three Thousand Lightning Movement. The only imperfection was the overly great exhaustion of Dou Qi. Even with the support of medicinal pills, Xiao Yan still needed to stop a couple of times to recuperate.

“There is still around a month or so until the energy tide in the Heaven Eye Mountain Range. I will walk through this mountain range during this period of time. I should be able to reach there beforehand.” Xiao Yan

rested for a moment before once again recovering his focus. He looked at the end of the mountain range and muttered to himself.

Quite a number of Magical Beasts were hidden within this mountain range. There was no lack of strong Magical Beasts among them. This place surpassed the Jia Ma Empire's Magical Beast Mountain Range in every way. Xiao Yan planned to engage in a bitter training regimen during this period of time. He would use this opportunity to practice the Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body and attempt to quickly agglomerate an avatar as soon as possible. Moreover, the life and death battle with Magical Beasts would have a big impact on the increase of his strength.

Xiao Yan smiled after making up his mind within his heart. This caused him to recall the memory of how he had left Wu Tan City and headed to the Magical Beast Mountain Range to train back then. At that time, he was a little fellow who had just become a Dou Zhe. Yet, the Dou Zhe who had just stepped into the training world back then had currently reached the level of a nine star Dou Huang. There was indeed a kind of dream like feeling when he thought about it...

Xiao Yan's figure leaped to the mountain top. He looked down at the vast mountain range and heard numerous Magical Beast roars being emitted from within. He involuntarily howled toward the sky. With a swoop, he rushed down like a giant bird and charged into the mountain range densely populated by Magical Beasts.

"Ha ha..."

The clear laugh that remained in the sky represented the beginning of Xiao Yan's bitter training in the forest!

Chapter 988: Rank 7 Gray Wolf King

A small silver stream flowed down from the top of a mountain within a quiet forest thriving in the lush green mountain range. The silent atmosphere caused the area around the small stream to be filled with a peaceful atmosphere.

“Bang!”

However, this silence did not last for long before an enormous black figure shot out of the forest. It landed on the ground, but continued to rub across it, forming a long scar on the rock surface around the small stream. Only then did it come to a slow stop. The large savage Magical Beast, filled with a fierce aura, struggled a couple of times before completely losing its life force. There was a charred black scar on its abdomen.

The sudden activity caused some of the Magical beast around the small stream to hurriedly withdraw in shock. This was especially the case after they saw the Magical Beast that had collapsed on the ground. Their intelligence made them involuntarily withdraw at an even faster rate. Whether it was a human or a Magical Beast, the one who could defeat the Great Land Demon Bear, which was the strongest within a hundred kilometer radius was definitely an extremely strong expert.

The faint sound of footsteps was transmitted through the forest after these Magical Beasts ran away in fear. A moment later, a skinny human figure slowly appeared.

The human figure paused outside of the forest, raised his head and looked at the glaring sun in the sky. He immediately lowered his head, glanced at the big fellow not far away, shook his head, and muttered, “Isn’t it fine if you just guard your own territory? Yet, you wish to help that foolish wolf act as a scout.”

The sun landed on that familiar young man’s face, causing the young man to appear even more lively. This person was naturally Xiao Yan, who had chosen to cross this mountain range on foot.

Xiao Yan had already walked for ten days through this mountain range.

During these ten days, there were quite a number of foolish Magical Beasts who had died by his hands. The pouring of the fresh blood of many Magical Beasts had vaguely caused Xiao Yan to emit a bloody fierce aura. His hands had also become sharper than they had been in the past. At a glance, he seemed to possess the dangerous feeling of a wild beast.

The vast mountain forest seemed to be a very good training location.

There were quite a number of powerful Magical Beasts within this mountain range. Not only were there high rank Magical Beasts comparable to an expert Dou Huang but Xiao Yan had even fought with a rank 7 Magical Beast, equivalent to an elite Dou Zong, by chance because he had found a rare medicinal ingredient. The Great Land Demon Bear had a strength equivalent to an ordinary Dou Huang. The one Xiao Yan had killed earlier was a scout of the Gray Wolf King, who was known as the overlord of this Mountain Range.

If one were to measure the strength of the Gray Wolf King with the human guage, he should be around the level of a two star Dou Zong. After including the great agilities and instincts of a wild beast, the Gray Wolf King would be comparable with a three star elite Dou Zong. In the past, Xiao Yan would have difficulty fighting an opponent of this level alone. However, with his current nine star Dou Huang strength and the great effect of the Skyfire Three Mysterious Change, even that Gray Wolf King had difficulty killing Xiao Yan within a short period of time. Hence, Xiao Yan was able to successfully escape the two fights that broke out with the Gray Wolf King during these four short days. Moreover, with Xiao Yan's overwhelmingly strong Spiritual Strength, he was able to avoid the Gray Wolf King's search. This had resulted in him having no choice but to order the other Magical Beasts within this mountain range to search for traces of Xiao Yan.

Of course, with the trump cards currently in Xiao Yan's hand, he only needed to take out the Earth Demon Puppet in order to kill this Gray Wolf King. However, he did not do so. An opponent of this level was coincidentally what he needed most. The strength of Chen Yun and the three great Elders of the Wind Lightning Northern Pavilion had far

exceeded Xiao Yan. Hence, Xiao Yan required the use of other methods to fight with them. Now, however, he only needed to rely on his own strength to face the Gray Wolf King. Xiao Yan had been able to fight him and successfully flee. This was the best training for him. Hence, he would naturally not take out a killing move and kill it.

“I wonder if that fellow is jumping up and down after failing to find me during these past two or three days?” Xiao Yan gloatingly laughed. He turned around and appeared on the body of the Great Land Demon Bear. He took out a dagger and inserted it into the beast’s body. After which, he extracted a yellow Monster Core. A rank 6 Monster Core would likely be useful when he refined pills in the future.

Xiao Yan came to the side of the small stream, washed the Monster Core, and stored it into his Storage Ring. He looked at the somewhat miserable figure that appeared on the lake’s surface and involuntarily shook his head. This period of having camped outdoors made him look comparable to a savage-looking person.

“I am becoming more and more familiar with the Three Thousand Lightning Movement. However, I have yet to succeed in the formation of an avatar. This damn Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body is indeed not easy to master...” A jade-green flame flickered on Xiao Yan’s hand, vaporizing all the water on it, while Xiao Yan softly spoke with a frown.

“There is still around twenty days or so until the start of the Heaven Eye Mountain Range energy tide. According to my speed, I should be able to leave this mountain range after ten days or so. At that time, I will fly to the Heaven Eye Mountain Range. Whether I will be able to form an avatar during this remaining time will depend on my luck...”

Xiao Yan sighed. He stood up, and was just about to turn around and leave when he suddenly raised his eyebrows. He glanced toward the distant sky. A large group of black figures was rushing over from that direction. One could even vaguely smell a dense, fierce scent...

“They are quick to arrive this time around...”

Xiao Yan involuntarily smiled when he saw this. He stopped, crossed his

arms over his chest, and smiled as he watched the gradually approaching black figure.

“Brat, leave the Starchless Fruit. Otherwise, I will cut the flesh from your body and eat it!” The black figure had yet to arrive when a furious roar was transmitted over. The roar caused the Magical Beasts within this section of the forest to shiver.

The black figure, gradually approaching, was an enormous flying Magical Beast. Its enormous wings were spread. It carried a loud whistling wind sound as it pressed down toward the forest below, causing the trees to bend. A middle-aged man, with a naked upper body covered in numerous wounds, stood proudly on the head of the Magical Beast. A pair of crimson eyes were viciously staring at Xiao Yan beside the small stream.

There were many Magical Beasts of different sizes behind the large man. At a glance, all of them were quite strong. It seemed that this fellow had called upon all the subordinates he could summon this time around.

“You are a commander who has occupied a mountain and proclaimed yourself king. Why do you persistently chase after me because of a Starchless Fruit? Isn’t that unbefitting of you?” Xiao Yan looked at the large man with a naked upper body as he spoke. This fellow was the overlord of this mountain range, the Gray Wolf King. His strength was extremely high. He could rely on his own strength to transform into a human. This was not an easy matter. It should be known that the transformation of a Magical Beast was similar to the birth of a high tier medicinal pill and a lightning tribulation would descend. If one could endure it, one would successfully transform one’s body. If one failed to endure it, it was likely that one would be killed by the lightning...

Of course, if one possessed a Body Transforming Pill, one would be able to avoid this dangerous step. However, this Gray Wolf King was clearly unable to find that high tier medicinal pill. After all, a Body Transforming Pill was a tier 7 medicinal pill. It could be considered one of the rarest medicinal pills within the Magical Beast world. It was easier said than done to obtain it.

“F***** nonsense!”

The Gray Wolf King swore after hearing Xiao Yan’s words. He leaped down from the back of the flying beast and landed on the ground with a bang, appearing just like an enormous tower. That great force caused the small stream beside him to explode. Water droplets scattered in all directions.

“Hand it over to the old me. Otherwise, I will kill you today!”

The Gray Wolf King’s red eyes stared at Xiao Yan. Immediately, his feet stomped on the ground. Enormous cracks spread under his feet. His body also emitted a ‘swoosh’ sound as it rushed toward Xiao Yan. Sharp knife-like claws at his fingertips viciously pierced toward Xiao Yan’s throat. A couple of faint black scars were formed in the air where the claw passed.

Xiao Yan merely smiled when he saw this. His footsteps moved and he withdrew over a dozen steps as a reflex action. Three afterimages appeared as he easily dodged the attack of the Gray Wolf King. The training of the Three Thousand Lightning Movement had already been ingrained in his bones. Each time he dodged, he would activate the Three Thousand Lightning Movement to its limit.

“Little bastard, do you only know how to dodge?”

The Gray Wolf King furiously roared when his attack was dodged by Xiao Yan. This was what caused him to feel dismay. His strength was clearly far greater than Xiao Yan’s strength, but the other party was even more slippery than a loach. He was unable to even touch the other party’s body.

Xiao Yan smiled when he saw the Gray Wolf King acting crazily. He was just about to speak when his eyes suddenly congelated. Both of his eyes suddenly turned to an afterimage in front of him.

Two of the three afterimages he had left behind swiftly disappeared. However, this final one had maintained its stance. Xiao Yan could faintly sense a Spiritual Strength spreading from its body.

“Suc... success?”

Xiao Yan was stunned as he looked at this afterimage that had not disappeared. He was dumbfounded. He had not controlled anything himself earlier. Who would have imagined that he would actually... actually agglomerate an avatar in such a baffling manner?

Xiao Yan finally recovered from his astonishment after a moment. A wild joy surfaced in his eyes. His hand hurriedly beckoned, and the afterimage transformed into an invisible light spot before entering Xiao Yan's brows. This was simply an avatar seed. However, this difficult creation step had been accomplished. Subsequently, if one were to temper and refine it, Xiao Yan's Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body would be able to smoothly agglomerate in the future!

"Ha ha, thank you very much... on account of you lending me a hand, I shall allow you to continue being this mountain's overlord in a secure manner." Xiao Yan laughed loudly to the Gray Wolf King. He shook his shoulders and a pair of crystal bone wings swiftly spread.

The Gray Wolf King let out a furious roar immediately upon seeing Xiao Yan preparing to flee. He had just taken a step forward when his body suddenly stiffened. His eyes looked as though he had seen a ghost. He stared at the crystal bone wings on Xiao Yan's back. A moment later, he screamed in horror, "Heaven Phoenix Demon Wings?"

Chapter 989: The Three Large Clans of the Magical Beast World

“Heaven Phoenix Demon Wings?”

Xiao Yan was startled when he heard the shocked exclamation that was emitted from the Gray Wolf King’s mouth. His gaze immediately turned to the bone wings on his back. Both of his eyes narrowed as demanded, “Do you know what these are?”

The Gray Wolf King gradually recovered after the shock lasted for awhile. His gaze carried some fear as he looked at Xiao Yan. Both of his feet swiftly withdrew. Although the flesh and the feathers on the bones had already disappeared, the special scent that was contained within the bone wings allowed him to immediately identify them. Back then, he had once seen a genuine Heaven Demon Phoenix. The pressure that originated from deep within his soul and bloodline had become a memory that he would never forget in his lifetime.

“Where did you obtain this pair of Heaven Phoenix Demon Wings?” The Gray Wolf King’s eyes stared intently at Xiao Yan while he spoke in a solemn manner. From the looks of the bone wings, they should have originated from a dead Heaven Demon Phoenix. However, the Heaven Demon Phoenix was a peak existence within the Magical Beast world. Although they were quite small in numbers, each of them possessed an extremely frightening strength, and their potential was terrifying. Moreover, every Heaven Demon Phoenix would return to their tribe’s altar when they were about to die. It was impossible for an outsider to obtain something related to the Heaven Demon Phoenix much less the pair of Heaven Phoenix Demon Wings on its body.

“What kind of magical beast did these Heaven Phoenix Demon Wings belong to?” Xiao Yan asked.

“You don’t know about the Heaven Demon Phoenix?” The Gray Wolf King was stunned when he heard Xiao Yan’s question, like he was witnessing an extremely funny thing.

“Heaven Demon Phoenix? That mysterious corpse back then should be this so-called Heaven Demon Phoenix.” Xiao Yan muttered within his heart. He immediately smiled and looked at the Gray Wolf King as he said, “Tell me all that you know about this Heaven Demon Phoenix.”

“Brat, who do you think you are. You actually dare to speak to the old me in this manner? Don’t think that you can show off just because you have obtained a pair of Heaven Phoenix Demon Wings. If the Heaven Demon Phoenix were aware that you used the wings of their tribe member to construct a flying Dou Technique, it is likely that they will begin chasing you and will not stop doing so until you die! At that time, it would be too late for you to even cry!” The Gray Wolf King furiously laughed. His mind had returned to reality upon hearing Xiao Yan’s discourteous words.

“If you are wise, you will hand the Starchless Fruit to the old me as soon as possible. Otherwise, I will tear you apart today!” The Gray Wolf King’s bright-red tongue licked his lips as his somewhat blood-red gaze stared at Xiao Yan. His feet stomped onto the ground in an abrupt manner. His body emitted a ‘swoosh’ sound before appearing above Xiao Yan’s head. A furious roar was emitted. His fist, which had veins pulsing on it, carried a low, deep sonic boom as it violently smashed down.

Xiao Yan faintly watched the Gray Wolf King, who had displayed a wild and violent attack. He flicked his finger and a bright-silver glow erupted in front of him.

“Bang!”

The fist of the Gray Wolf King violently smashed into the silver glow. A vaguely metallic sound appeared.

The expression of the Gray Wolf King changed slightly when his fist landed. He could only sense that his arm seemed to have turned numb at this moment. Before he could withdraw and pull back, a silver-colored fist was swung wildly, smashing against his chest.

Bang!

The fist met its target and the Gray Wolf King felt his throat become slightly sweet. Shock surged in his eyes. Such a frightening force... did it

really originate from this brat?

The Gray Wolf King's body landed miserably. His feet took over a dozen steps, each pounding at least half a foot deep into the ground, before gradually coming to a stop. He raised his head in shock. Immediately, his eyes narrowed and paused on a silver-colored human figure in front of Xiao Yan. He sensed a hint of danger from this human figure which did not move even a little.

"You have two choices. One is to reply to my question and continue being your king of the mountains, or two, allow me to kill you now." Xiao Yan looked down at the Gray Wolf King from above and spoke in a faint voice.

"With just you?" The Gray Wolf King furiously laughed.

"With it..." Xiao Yan smiled. His finger pointed at the Gray Wolf King. The Earth Demon Puppet beside him immediately let out a bang as it rushed down like a cannonball before violently colliding with the Gray Wolf King.

The Gray Wolf King was startled when he saw the Earth Demon Puppet pouncing over. After the short exchange earlier. He clearly understood just how frightening this silver-colored demon was. Although he was frightened, something stirred a deep fierceness within his body. Both of his eyes turned slightly red and a roar was emitted from his throat. Immediately, he charged forward and violently collided with the Earth Demon Puppet.

The Gray Wolf King chose to fight with his physical body against the Earth Demon Puppet. This was also the fighting method that both parties specialized in. They had just exchanged a couple of blows, however, when the gap between the two was revealed. The Earth Demon Puppet's strength far surpassed the Gray Wolf King. Moreover, the gap between physical bodies was an entire level higher. One could tell the stronger of the two the moment they clashed.

Bang!

Both fists violently collided. A wave of frightening air surged out. The

rock fragments on the ground completely exploded at this moment, transforming into powder. The small stream by the side also emitted a banging noise. Numerous waves that were a couple of hundred feet in height soared. The trees around were also implicated by the battle with many of them breaking apart.

The Earth Demon Puppet's body trembled a little as the palm wind scattered. It took half a step back while the Gray Wolf King's feet rubbed against the ground, forming a scar that was over ten meters in distance. Only then was he barely able to stabilize his body. When he raised his head once again, the fierce aura was finally covered by shock. He clearly understood that it was not impossible for this monster to kill him, given its frightening strength.

After stepping back, the Earth Demon Puppet, which did not receive Xiao Yan's orders, once again stepped forward. Its body continued charging toward the Gray Wolf King.

"Stop, stop! I admit defeat!"

The Gray Wolf King hurriedly cried out. His expression had suddenly changed when he saw the Earth Demon Puppet charging over with a fierce aura.

The Earth Demon Puppet quickly stopped after his voice sounded. A pair of empty eyes stared at the Gray Wolf King, causing his skin to feel somewhat chilly.

Xiao Yan smiled in the sky. He slowly landed on the ground, stopped beside the Earth Demon Puppet, and said, "Tell me... I want to know all the information related to this Heaven Demon Phoenix."

The Gray Wolf King rubbed away a thread of blood from the corner of his mouth. His gaze was still fearful as he glanced at the Earth Demon Puppet. After which, he clenched his teeth and said somewhat unwillingly, "The Heaven Demon Phoenix is extremely well known within the Magical Beast world. A tribe like them has a reputation similar to that of the Pill Tower or the 'Hall of Souls' in the Central Plains. Moreover, they truly belong to the peak level. As long as the elders within the tribe help

activate its consciousness, each Heaven Demon Phoenix will leap to rank 5 upon being born, and will possess an intelligence comparable with that of humans. Most of the adult Heaven Demon Phoenix are at the rank 7 level. Some of their elites are even able to reach a frightening rank 8 level.

“Hence, despite the Heaven Demon Phoenix tribe being few in numbers, it possesses an extremely influential role on the Dou Qi continent. Even factions like the Pill Tower and ‘Hall of Souls’ are extremely courteous to them.

“Each member of the Heaven Demon Phoenix tribe will return to the altar of the tribe and wait to die when death is approaching. Therefore, it is extremely difficult for the outside world to obtain anything from their bodies. One reason is that they are very hard to obtain, and the second is, should the Heaven Demon Phoenix tribe discover that one did obtain it, his ending...”

The Gray Wolf King involuntarily looked at Xiao Yan in a gloating manner after speaking up to this point. So what if Xiao Yan had such a powerful helper? This little strength was not even worth mentioning in the face of the Heaven Demon Phoenix tribe, yet this fellow dared to use the Heaven Phoenix Demon Wings without any attempt to hide them.

Xiao Yan was unconcerned about the gloating eyes belonging to the Gray Wolf King. He frowned slightly. Although he had expected the Magical Beast corpse to be extraordinary, he had never imagined that this fellow would actually possess such a status and powerful background in the Magical Beast world...

“Are there any other factions within the Magical Beast world who could contend with the Heaven Demon Phoenix?” Xiao Yan seemed to have thought of something and he asked once again. He recalled Zi Yan. Her blood was able to suppress the essence blood of the Heaven Demon Phoenix. It was likely that her actual body was also an extraordinary being.

The Gray Wolf King hesitated for a moment upon hearing this. Finally, he replied, “There are two tribes. Both of them have a heritage that stretches to the ancient times. One of them is the Nine Serene Deep

Ground Python while the other is the Void Ancient Dragon.”

“Nine Serene Deep Ground Python? Void Ancient Dragon?” Xiao Yan slowly mumbled these two names in his mouth. His eyebrows were knit once again. He had little understanding of all of this. Naturally, he was unaware of which of the two Zi Yan belonged to.

“These two tribes are also extremely frightening. The Nine Serene Deep Ground Python has a large population. Of course, most of them are not of pure blood. However, this allowed the Nine Serene Deep Ground Python to establish an enormous tribe. There is no lack of powerful beings among them. After all, a Magical Beast has a long lifespan. The achievements accumulated over time are naturally impressive. The Void Ancient Dragon, on the other hand, is much more mysterious. I also do not know much about this tribe. However, their strength is something that one does not even need to mention because it is rumored that this Void Ancient Dragon treats the Heaven Demon Phoenix... as food...” The face of the Gray Wolf King was somewhat strange when he spoke until this point. The strength of the Heaven Demon Phoenix was so terrifying that it caused one’s heart to feel chill, yet this Void Ancient Dragon actually feed on it. Even he felt that these words were extremely ridiculous.

“Cough This is only something that I have heard from rumors. The Void Ancient Dragon is the most mysterious Magical Beast in the Magical Beast world. It is rumored that they can shuttle through empty dimensions as they please, and are the perfect mounts for traveling through space and dimensions. Hence, I am also unaware of the exact situation...”

The Gray Wolf King coughed dryly. He immediately looked at Xiao Yan and said, “I have already told you all that you wished to know.”

“Shuttling through dimensions... this Void Ancient Dragon really does live up to its name. I wonder if Zi Yan belongs to this tribe. Some of her abilities are related to space...” Xiao Yan tilted his head as he muttered in his heart.

After musing for a moment in his heart, Xiao Yan raised his head and glanced at the Gray Wolf King. He moved his hand like he was tossing

something and a fruit flew out of his Storage Ring. “Take it. This is your reward. Additionally, I hope that you will keep the matter today a secret unless you don’t wish to rule this mountain range...”

The Gray Wolf King rejoiced upon receiving the reddish fruit. He carefully stored it into his Storage Ring and said, “You can rest assured that us, Magical Beasts, keep our words. We are not like you humans who like to go back on them. I will not tell anyone about this matter because telling others will only bring trouble to me. Hee hee, however, on the account of you returning this Starchless Fruit to me, I will remind you that it would be best for you not to allow the Heaven Demon Phoenix to discover your bone wings. Otherwise, you will be chased by them until you have no place to hide.”

The Gray Wolf King leaped up after speaking, rushing onto the enormous Magical Beast’s head. With a soft cry, he directed the Magical Beast and left with a whistling wind.

Xiao Yan also exhaled as he watched the Gray Wolf King gradually disappear. He turned his head and looked at the bone wings on his back, only to involuntarily let out a bitter laugh. This thing... seemed to have become a lot of trouble.

Chapter 990: Tempering the Avatar

A bonfire was emitting a faint fire seedling within the dark forest. Light spread, causing the forest within a hundred meter radius to be dyed with a faint-red glow.

Xiao Yan was seated cross-legged beside the bonfire. The light from the flame lit up his face, and seemed to have covered his body with a layer of faint-red yarn. At this moment, both of his eyes were tightly shut. The fire seal between his eyebrows was emitting a faint, weak light.

This silence continued awhile before Xiao Yan suddenly opened both of his eyes. An invisible energy surged from between his brows. It swiftly wiggled beside him and transformed into a human figure. Moreover, the appearance of this person seemed like a replica of Xiao Yan.

Xiao Yan turned his head to look at this avatar. He could vaguely see the light, that was emitted from the flame, through its body.

“The strength of this avatar should be only at the Dou Ling class. Moreover, the time it can exist is too short. If it was someone with sharp eyes, the person would be able to tell what it is at a glance.” Xiao Yan frowned and softly muttered.

According to the training method within Xiao Yan’s mind, his first step was to form an avatar. If one successfully formed an avatar, all one needed to do next was to temper this avatar until it controlled a strength similar to the creator’s strength.

Although this was easy to say, it was extremely difficult to do it. Given Fei Tian’s ability, he had only gotten his avatar to reach the intermediate level despite having honed it for so many years. There was still a great distance before it reached the mastery level. Moreover, Xiao Yan had only just completed the first step. There was a vast gap until the next step...

“According to what the training method states, one needs to gradually merge the wind lightning strength into the avatar, and then use the wind lightning strength to hide the spiritual ripple. Thus, it would act as a defense as well as hide the spiritual secret...” Xiao Yan looked at the avatar

beside him as this thought swiftly lingered in his heart.

“The lightning glow on the surface of Fei Tian’s avatar back then can likely be explained by this. Moreover, the wind lightning strength had also become the attacking technique of his avatar. Its strength is quite great... however... however, there is no Wind Lightning strength within my body. The little bit I had absorbed when practicing the Three Thousand Lightning Movement back then is far from sufficient to temper this avatar. What should I do?”

Xiao Yan frowned while he thought about this. If the avatar did not have the protection of the Wind Lightning Strength, it would definitely be at a severe disadvantage if it met with a powerful thing like the Fallen Heart Flame, that could cause damage to a spirit. The fate of Fei Tian’s avatar was the best case study.

“But... where can I get this Wind Lightning Strength? Back then, I had worked so hard only to end up absorbing a little Wind Lightning Strength, that is barely sufficient to practice the Three Thousand Lightning Movement...” The bamboo firewood in Xiao Yan’s hand was smashed into powder without him realizing it. He involuntarily laughed upon seeing this. This Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body had caused him to have a headache.

“Stupid, who says that you must definitely use Wind Lightning Strength? This is merely one of the tempering methods. It is also fine if you use other forms of energy. The strength of the ‘Heavenly Flame’ within your body is many times stronger than that Wind Lightning Strength, especially the Fallen Heart Flame. If you can merge it into the avatar, it would be unafraid of any strange energy that could subdue spirits in the future. Hence, the only imperfection of the avatar is remedied by you. Its strength would also be many times stronger than the avatar of Fei Tian...” Tian Huo zun-zhe teaching voice was suddenly emitted from the ring while Xiao Yan’s head ached

Xiao Yan was stunned when he heard his suggestion. He mumbled a little, “However, the training method has said to use the Wind Lightning Strength to temper the avatar. Would the usage of other energy not

destroy the avatar especially if the Fallen Heart Flame is used? It is able to hurt spirits. Would the spiritual avatar not be refined into nothingness the moment they make contact?”

“Everything in the world is such that wealth is obtained from danger. The Fallen Heart Flame has already been completely refined by you. When have you seen it reject your soul? As long as you grasp the equilibrium of the tempering properly and proceed slowly, the mastery of the avatar will only be around the corner.” Tian Huo zun-zhe explained.

Xiao Yan was not a foolish person. His heart also came to a sudden understanding after Tian Huo zun-zhe’s reminder. A moment later, he inhaled a deep breath of air. It was really as Tian Huo zun-zhe had said, and it would be difficult for him to obtain a large amount of Wind Lightning Strength. Since this was the case, it was better if he attempted to strengthen the avatar with a ‘Heavenly Flame.’ He would not lose anything if he failed. However, if he were to succeed, this last remaining imperfection of the spiritual avatar would be remedied by him. It would definitely be a lot of help when he fought with others in the future.

“Since this is the case... let’s give it a try!”

Xiao Yan made up his mind in his heart. The hesitation in his eyes swiftly disappeared. There was already less than twenty days until the energy tide in the Heaven Eye Mountain Range began. Based on the distance he had to cover, he should be able to cross this mountain range after five or six days. At that time, he would go all out and hurry to the Heaven Eye Mountain Range. Hence, it was best if he could make progress during these five to six days. Otherwise, this Dou Ling class avatar would not be any help to him.

Xiao Yan’s finger pressed on the avatar beside him. It shook before transforming into an invisible light that entered the spot between Xiao Yan’s brows. With a wave of Xiao Yan’s hand, the Earth Demon Puppet appeared. It guarded him. Only then did Xiao Yan slowly shut his eyes. His mind moved, entering the Spiritual Sea in his brows.

Xiao Yan’s illusionary figure slowly surfaced in the sea region. The

Spiritual Strength in front of him fluctuated slightly and a tiny light spot emitted a faint glow. Immediately, the avatar appeared amid the spiritual fluctuation below.

The spirit of Xiao Yan sat cross-legged while the avatar in front of him also swiftly sat down. Xiao Yan gently exhaled a breath of air after seeing this. He beckoned with his hand and a cluster of Fallen Heart Flame appeared.

The spiritual sea below Xiao Yan fluctuated the moment this cluster of Fallen Heart Flame appeared. Although this thing had already been subdued by Xiao Yan, its effect of restraining a spirit still caused the Spiritual Strength to keep its distance.

Xiao Yan was unconcerned about the reflexive action of the spiritual sea. He swung his hand and the Fallen Heart Flame flew out. Immediately, it wrapped around the avatar in front of Xiao Yan.

The flame had just wrapped around Xiao Yan's avatar when its body abruptly trembled. Its originally illusory body had become paler.

"Lower the temperature... you must maintain the flame at a certain special temperature. As long as you calm yourself and avoid being disturbed, you should be able to do it with your fire control ability..." Tian Huo zun-zhe's soft, deep voice sounded within the spiritual sea region.

Xiao Yan's fingers moved. The flame wrapped around the avatar slowly became much dimmer, causing the temperature to gradually fell. Following the decrease of the Fallen Heart Flame's temperature, the shaking of the avatar's body was reduced slightly. However, it was still vaguely trembling.

Xiao Yan's mind was maintained in an undistracted condition. He slowly suppressed the flame's temperature. While the flame's temperature fell, the various visual cues given by the avatar also entered Xiao Yan's head. After which, Xiao Yan identified the best temperature in a lightning-like manner...

This was an extremely difficult form of control. It required an extremely harsh flame control ability. Under the refinement of the Fallen Heart

Flame, the avatar was slowly becoming stronger. At the same time, Xiao Yan needed to control the flame's temperature and raise it according to the resistance of the avatar. Thus, he had to repeatedly adjust the temperature of the Fallen Heart Flame in order to obtain the tempering effect.

This efficient control consumed a great amount of mental capacity. Even with Xiao Yan's endurance, he was clearly able to sense a tired feeling slowly spreading out from deep within his soul...

Although the process exhausted a great amount of attention, it must be said that Xiao Yan's control of the Fallen Heart Flame had already reached a perfect stage. The original illusory avatar was gradually becoming substance-like under the tempering of the Fallen Heart Flame. This process might be very slow, but if Fei Tian and those people in the Wind Lightning Pavilion who practiced the Three Thousand Lightning Illusory Body were to see this, it was likely that their jaws would drop. Such a speed might appear slow, but it was already extremely frightening. Compared to this, the speed of them using the Wind Lightning Strength to temper their avatar seemed to be like a tortoise crawling...

Tian Huo zun-zhe smiled in a pleased manner upon seeing Xiao Yan enter a rhythm after a simple reminder. After which, he slowly disappeared.

Two Xiao Yan's were seated facing each other within the spiritual space. One appeared solemn while the other was wrapped within an invisible flame. The avatars illusory body was quietly fluctuating within the flame. While the flame was refining it, threads of extremely faint fire seedings slowly merged into the avatar, causing some invisible flames to appear in the transparent body....

Night slowly disappeared. When the first rays of morning sun scattered down, Xiao Yan, who was beside a bonfire, slowly opened his eyes. A tiredness was faintly present within them. The exhaustion of Xiao Yan's Spiritual Strength during the night was not any less than the results of having fought a big battle with others.

“This avatar tempering is indeed difficult. According to this speed, it will likely require at least two months before it can reach the intermediate level. I don’t even know when it will be before I can reach complete mastery. The Three Thousand Lightning Illusionary Body is indeed the most difficult Dou Technique to practice within the Wind Lightning Pavilion...”

Xiao Yan stood up from the ground and involuntarily sighed as he muttered.

“Little fellow, you are really greedy. Although I am not familiar with this Dou Technique, Fei Tian has at least tempered his avatar for more than five years from the looks of it, yet you are not satisfied by being able to reach a similar stage in two short months?” Tian Huo zun-zhe’s helpless voice was emitted from the ring.

Xiao Yan involuntarily let out an embarrassed smile upon hearing this. Putting it this way, he was really greedy. Xiao Yan coughed dryly and returned the Earth Demon Puppet to his Storage Ring. After which, he raised his feet and walked in the northern direction of the forest.

“Let’s get moving. The Heaven Eye Mountain Range is likely already filled with people. I wonder if I will be able to snatch one of the ten places? This is the opportunity to breakthrough to the Dou Zong class. I will not give it up no matter what...”

Chapter 991: Arriving at the Heaven Eye Mountain Range

Near the lush greenery at the end of the mountain range, a skinny figure slowly walked out of the dim forest. Following the appearance of this figure, a foul, bloody taste was slowly emitted. The Magical Beast that sniffed this blood stench within a radius of five kilometer hurriedly withdrew, appearing as though they had suffered a shock.

Walking through this mountain range had consumed nearly twenty days of Xiao Yan's time. He had also camped in the wild for twenty days. Although it was quite tough, the vast forest was indeed a good place to hone a person. Currently, Xiao Yan's appearance was somewhat miserable with the blood of various Magical Beasts messily scattered over his clothes and his hair. He looked just like a barbarian. The earlier dangerous feeling about him had basically disappeared at this moment. However, when his dark-black eyes were raised, a sensitive person would be able to sense that the feeling of danger did not actually disappear. Instead, it was hidden within Xiao Yan's bones...

The appearance of a person who looked inconspicuous on the surface but emitted a dangerous feeling from their bones was truly dangerous because they attempt a fatal blow when someone least expected it.

Xiao Yan stood on the edge of the mountain range and looked at the large path under the mountain peak. Upon seeing the noisy crowd of people coming and going on the road, Xiao Yan involuntarily felt absentminded. Training was indeed a lonely and dull thing. If one wanted to become an expert that other people respected in their eyes, the hard work one would have to put in and loneliness one would have to endure was something that an ordinary person had difficulty imagining.

This logic was something that Xiao Yan understood ever since he left Wu Tan City back then. Now, his understanding of this logic was much deeper than before because he had experienced such a feeling during his years of training.

Xiao Yan exhaled a deep breath. His finger rubbed the spot between his brows. Due to his training during this period becoming like a habit, the avatar within his Spiritual Sea was constantly receiving the refinement of the Fallen Heart Flame. Although this was a large burden on Xiao Yan, it was fortunate that he was an alchemist, skilled in how to reduce tiredness. Hence, he was able to get used to this exhaustion.

“The energy tide of the Heaven Eye Mountain Range should be about to begin. However, it is fortunate that this place is not far from that location. With my speed, I should be able to reach it within half a day...” Xiao Yan took out a map from his Storage Ring and studied it carefully. After which, his gaze looked to the northern sky as he muttered to himself. His back shook and a pair of jade-green fire wings slowly extended out.

Xiao Yan had become a lot more careful after learning that his bone wings belonged to that so-called Heaven Demon Phoenix tribe. The strength of the Heaven Demon Phoenix tribe was definitely stronger than the Wind Lightning Pavilion. He did not wish to invite such trouble at this moment. Hence, he would only use the bone wings at critical times. Although his speed would be greatly reduced as a result, he could only endure it to protect this little life of his. After all, who would have known back then that that damn Magical Beast corpse would invite so much trouble...

Xiao Yan's toes pressed on the ground after the fire wings were spread. He immediately rose, and with a 'swoosh' sound, he transformed into a jade-green fire figure that rushed toward the northern sky...

.....

The Heaven Eye Mountain Range was quite well-known in the entire northern region of the Central Plains. The most important reason was because of the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool that appeared once every three years. The miraculous effect possessed a great allure to most people. This was definitely why a majority of the people were here. Most of them were of the younger generation because of the miraculous effect of transforming one's bones and aiding in one's breakthrough, which the blood pool possessed, had an even greater effect on the younger

generation.

Of course, in order to groom some outstanding young people from within one's faction, some of the large factions paid attention to the Mountain Blood Pool. There was an extremely great gap between the Dou Huang and Dou Zong class. In the Central Plains, an expert Dou Huang could indeed be called a strong person. However, only by becoming an elite Dou Zong would one truly receive the treatment of being a strong person.

If Dou Huangs were considered the core strength of a clan, a Dou Zong was considered their top strength. As long as a clan possessed an elite Dou Zong, its reputation and influence would naturally far exceed another clan in possession of ten Dou Huangs without a single Dou Zong. This was the influence of a Dou Zong!

From this, one could tell just how big the gap between a Dou Huang and a Dou Zong was.

Of course, if a clan possessed a Dou Zun, this clan would definitely become one with great authority even if this Dou Zun never bothered about the matters within the clan. Even a large faction like the Wind Lightning Pavilion must treat that clan with great courtesy.

The Dou Zun class were considered the truly top experts even in the Central Plains region.

Within the Jia Ma Empire or the Black-Corner Region, one could be considered part of a top tier faction as long as one possessed a Dou Huang or a Dou Zong. However, such a top tier faction could barely be considered to have entered the second tier within the Central Plains. This was the gap between them...

As for Dou Sheng...

A faction which possessed an expert that existed in the legends was already considered an extraordinary existence. The fights between ordinary factions appeared like child's play in their eyes... in the eyes of an elite Dou Sheng, such a fight would instantly collapse with the wave of a hand...

Of course, that level was really too far from Xiao Yan and the others. Currently, Xiao Yan's only thought was to allow himself to breakthrough the Dou Huang class and advance into the Dou Zong class. Only by advancing to the Dou Zong class would Xiao Yan have the qualifications to meet Xun Er. That mysterious Gu clan behind her was not placed within the so-called One Hall, One Tower, Two Sects, Three Valleys, Four Pavilions. However, Xiao Yan was certain that the Gu clan definitely possessed a strength that was not weaker than Pill Tower or the 'Hall of Souls.' If he wanted to successfully take Xun Er away from this clan, he must take out a strength that caused them to be unable to refute him. The first precondition of this was for him to advance to the Dou Zong class!

Although Xiao Yan was currently a nine star Dou Huang and his strength had improved from the twenty days of tough training in the forest, there was still quite a big gap to break away from the Dou Huang class. A nine star Dou Huang might only have a one star gap with a Dou Zong, but this one star was enough to cause a countless number of outstanding individuals to stop at this level forever, all the way until they die...

That's why the miraculous effects of the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool, aiding one's breakthrough, were endlessly magnified. It caused many young experts within the northern region of the Central Plains along with factions like the Wind Lightning Pavilion to swarm over to this Heaven Eye Mountain Range without fearing death. All that they were after was one of the ten names...

Logically speaking, such a precious Heaven Mountain Blood Pool ought to have attracted numerous powerful factions to possess it. However, not a single faction had successfully managed to occupy it even until this day. Even a faction like the Wind Lightning Pavilion did not have the ability to do so despite possessing such thoughts. After all, this Heaven Mountain Blood Pool had too great of an implication. One would be common energy if one were to occupy it by oneself. Moreover, the Wind Lightning Pavilion was not without enemies. The four pavilions did not see eye to eye with one another. All of them wished to suppress the others. Naturally, it was

impossible for them to simply watch the pool being solely occupied by one party. Hence, the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool remained ownerless due to it affecting many factions.

Of course, if one were to really talk about an owner, the native Magical Beasts in the Heaven Eye Mountain Range could barely be considered owners. Unfortunately, the humans would not give up because of this. The allure of the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool was enough to cause the humans to pounce forward without fearing death...

.....

Xiao Yan continued to travel without resting for five hours before an enormous mountain range, covered by a dense fog, slowly appeared within his eyesight.

The Heaven Eye Mountain Range was the largest and tallest mountain range that Xiao Yan had ever seen. Even the Magical Beast Mountain Range within the Jia Ma Empire could not compare with it. Dense fog covered most of the mountain range, causing one to have difficulty seeing just what was present there. Moreover, the fog seemed to contain an extremely mighty energy. Even Xiao Yan involuntarily felt his heart become worried under this large amount of energy. No wonder no one dared to fly in from the sky. The route in the sky was one with a dead end.

Xiao Yan stood high above in the air and looked down at the entry points of the mountain range below. His head involuntarily turned a little numb when he saw the dense dark-black sea of people below. Although Xiao Yan knew that the allure of this Heaven Mountain Blood Pool was definitely quite great, he still felt shocked upon seeing such a great sea of people. The level of difficulty in obtaining the miserable ten spots from these people was really extraordinary...

Xiao Yan bitterly laughed. He chose a deserted place before landing. After which, he leaped down the mountain peak and appeared on a treetop in the Heaven Eye Mountain Range within a couple of flashes. His gaze swept around and discovered that quite a number of people were sitting cross-legged in the treetops around him.

The Heaven Eye Mountain Range was covered by a cloud all year long. Moreover, there were many powerful Magical Beast within it. Hence, there were only three safe entry points. The location where Xiao Yan was at was one of them. However, that entrance was occupied by a sea of people.

Xiao Yan was sighing in the face of this vast scene when the clear, loud cry of a crane suddenly resounded from the distant sky. Immediately, it attracted all the gazes around it.

Xiao Yan's eyes also looked over. He could see a multicolored enormous crane flapping its wings as it swiftly flew toward the Heaven Eye Mountain Range. Sunlight landed on the multicolored feathers, reflecting a brilliant luster that was unusually gorgeous.

"The Seven Colored Soul Crane? Isn't this the ride of the Miss Feng from the Wind Lightning Pavilion?"

Numerous startled voices immediately sounded when everyone saw the massive colorful crane.

Xiao Yan was startled upon hearing this. He frowned immediately. It was the Wind Lightning Pavilion again...

Chapter 992: Miss Feng

The enormous colorful crane flapped its wings. In the blink of an eye, it carried a wild wind as it appeared around the Heaven Eye Mountain Range. In an instant, almost all the gazes of those present turned to the sky without any prior agreement. The name of Miss Feng from the Wind Lightning Pavilion was quite well-known in the northern region of the Central Plains. Many people knew that this woman's training talent was extraordinary, and she had been taken as the last disciple of the eastern pavilion chief of the Wind Lightning Pavilion. It was rumored that she had the highest chance to become the eastern pavilion head among the younger generation.

The strength of the Wind Lightning Pavilion could be considered among the top even in the Central Plains. Whoever could control the faction would definitely find their status soar. Moreover, quite a number of people involuntarily felt envious of this Miss Feng. Such a level was something that an ordinary person would have difficulty achieving even if one worked hard their entire life.

Xiao Yan also sat down cross-legged in a treetop. His eyes were narrowed as he stared at the enormous colorful crane in the sky from a distance. He was faintly able to see a delicate and moving figure at the head of the crane.

"I wonder if that Fei Tian has followed them. If that old fellow also came, there will be some trouble this time around." Xiao Yan's eyes slowly swept over the enormous colorful crane as he muttered to himself in his heart.

The enormous colorful crane gradually descended from the sky while Xiao Yan was mumbling. Finally, it stopped at a spot a hundred meters from the ground. With Xiao Yan's eyesight, he was clearly able to see everything from this distance.

The first thing that was imprinted into his eyes was the moving figure in a fluttering dress, standing on the head of the crane. This lady was wearing a colorful dress, and seemed to emit the aura of a distinguished

person at a distant glance. Her face was a little thin and oval in shape. This, along with her purplish-brown gem-like eyes, caused this Miss Feng to appear like the princess of an empire, looking both beautiful and holy. She did not fit well into the scene that was filled with people.

However, the only imperfection of this holiness was the icy indifference that kept one at a distance, giving her the feeling of being unapproachable.

However, a jade must have some flaws in order to reveal its preciousness. This cold indifference did not cause Miss Feng to lose points on her appearance. Her demeanor and beauty were both top quality. Even Xiao Yan softly praised them within his heart. Immediately after that, however, his gaze swiftly turned away and paused on the two old figures behind the lady.

These two old figures looked as though they would fall from a mere breeze. However, Xiao Yan's expression became much more solemn when his gaze swept over these two. Although these two could not compare with Fei Tian, they were quite stronger than the three Elders from the Wind Lightning Pavilion who had attacked him together back then. Their strengths seemed to be at least that of a six star Dou Zong.

Xiao Yan's gaze carried a solemnness as it swept over the two old figures. He slowly exhaled a breath in his heart. It was fortunate that they were not that old demon Fei Tian. Although two six star Dou Zongs were troublesome to deal with, Xiao Yan would still rather choose them over Fei Tian...

After all, Xiao Yan had to rely on some luck and wittiness in order to flee from the hands of that old demon, who had an incredible strength and was unbelievably fast.

"Is that Miss Feng from the Wind Lightning Pavilion? She really lives up to her reputation, and possesses a nobility similar to a phoenix..."

"Unexpectedly, even she has been attracted by this Heaven Mountain Blood Pool. Looks like she will be among the ten names this time around."

"Hei, that is not for certain. There is an unknown number of hidden

talent and experts within the Central Plains. One cannot simply rely on one's outer appearance and background in order to obtain those ten spots. If an overly strong person was to enter, that person would definitely stir an energy tide. At that time, he would merely be seeking hardship. Hence, the only right path is to rely on one's strength within this Heaven Eye Mountain Range. At that time, the powerful guards within the sect are of little use."

"....."

A thought passed through Xiao Yan's mind as he heard the private conversations around him. Putting it this way, the Heaven Eye Mountain Range was able to restrict a strong person from entering? Therefore, it was likely that Fei Tian would not be able to enter given his strength... Xiao Yan completely put down the worry in his heart when he thought of this. He was indeed extremely afraid of that old demon.

"However, given my eyesight, I am unable to see the exact strength of this Miss Feng. It is likely that she possesses some mysterious item that hides her aura. Nevertheless, I am not afraid of her. As long as she does not come and find trouble with me, I will also be too lazy to find trouble with her..." Xiao Yan slowly withdrew his eyes as he softly muttered.

Xiao Yan withdrew his eyes and turned them to the entrance of the Heaven Eye Mountain Range. That place was filled with many people. However, there were few people entering the mountain range at this moment. Everyone knew that there were many Magical Beasts within the Heaven Eye Mountain Range. There was no lack of frightening strong beasts among them. It was likely that one was simply delivering oneself to them by entering at this moment. Hence, many people were waiting for the start of the energy tide. Only at that time would the Magical Beasts in the mountain range be much more tamed after being suppressed by the tidal strength. That time would be the safest moment to enter the mountain range.

"It is likely that the energy tide will begin in the next few days. At that time, the number of people swarming into the mountain range will reach a frightening amount. However, there is no telling just how many people

will be able to successfully reach the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool... for now, all that I can do is wait quietly....”

Xiao Yan sighed softly within his heart. He once again withdrew his gaze, shut his eyes, and recuperated.

.....

“Elder Mu, are there anyone from the other three pavilions who have come to the Heaven Eye Mountain Range.” The colorful-clothed lady on the enormous crane swept her eyes indifferently over the people below. After which, she opened her mouth and posed a question. Her voice was clear, but it faintly emitted a cold indifference.

“Hee hee, how is it possible for them not to come? The Ten Thousand Sword Pavilion’s Sky Fountain Sword Tang Ying, the Yellow Spring Pavilion’s Wang Chen, and the Falling Star Pavilion’s Mu Qing Luan. The most outstanding young people from each sect have all been dispatched. They have already reached the peak of the Dou Huang class. If they could soak once in the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool, it would not be long before they breakthrough to the Dou Zong class. Who would give up such an opportunity?” A green-robed, old man laughed in a strange manner from behind the colorful-dressed lady.

The lady nodded gently upon hearing this. A faint smile surfaced on her somewhat cold and indifferent face as she replied, “Looks like the fight for the Blood Pool this time around is going to be a heated one.”

“Young miss, the chief has asked you to be a little careful this time around. The Heaven Mountain Blood Pool has attracted quite a number of young experts from the northern region this time around. Other than those three earlier, there are some other people who also possess the qualification to fight with the few of you. Therefore, it is best to be a little cautious when doing things.” That other red-robed Elder slowly reminded.

“For example that person called Xiao Yan?” The colorful-clothed lady lifted the corner of her mouth into a slight arc as she spoke in a soft somewhat chilly voice.

“This person is a great enemy that cannot be underestimated. We met

with the northern pavilion head, Fei Tian, along the way here. That Xiao Yan is actually escaped from his hands. It is likely that one could not even find five people in the same generation who could show such an ability. Young miss should also have some understanding of the strength of the northern pavilion's chief. Hence, it is only naturally for you to know just how difficult it is to escape from the chief's hands. The matters related to Xiao Yan have been spread all over the Wind Lightning Pavilion recently. Young miss should have also heard of him..." the red-robed Elder spoke in a solemn voice.

"I have naturally heard of him. How could someone, who could break the Nine Heavenly Lightning Prison Formation that the three northern pavilion Elders set up with a large group, be an unknown person... however, I wonder if he could achieve this by just relying on his strength? The Heaven Eye Mountain Range is suppressed by the energy tide. If one's energy surpasses the limit, one would definitely attract the energy tide over. Hence, one must rely on one's own strength within the mountain range. It is not possible to achieve anything by using another person's strength." The colorful-clothed young miss pulled aside a thread of black hair from her forehead with her delicate hand as she softly spoke. Her purplish-brown eyes flickered around.

"Tsk tsk, old fellow. Why are you saying such words that diminish yourself and praise others? That little fellow might have some ability, but from the way I see it, the entire situation was due to that powerful spiritual body. This little advantage will completely vanish within the Heaven Eye Mountain Range. It is just as well if young miss meets him. She can just kill him if she does so. At that time, we can even gain a favor from the northern pavilion chief if we hand that brat over." The green-robed, old man by the side laughed, "The pavilion chief has also said that young miss will have difficulty finding an opponent with her strength. Even if she meets some experts of the Dou Zong class, she would be able to fight them. Hence, you should not underestimate young miss."

The red-robed old man involuntarily frowned when he heard this. He was just about to speak when the colorful-clothed lady in front of him

gently shook her snow-white wrist. She slowly said, "Elder Huo, please be reassured that I know my limits and will do my best to be careful."

"The old me is only giving a reminder. Moreover, it is not certain if that Xiao Yan will come. Although this brat escaped the northern pavilion chief earlier, it is likely that he will still feel some fear within his heart." The red-robed, old man laughed.

The colorful-clothed lady slightly smiled. However, her smile revealed a coldness that was difficult to hide. Her eyes swept over the area below before slowly shutting her eyes. The thing she needed to do now was to wait for the start of the energy tide. After which, she would use the fastest speed to arrive at the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool. Since the other three pavilions had also sent out those three fellows, the fight this time around would be quite interesting. It would likely not disappoint her. Moreover, the person called Xiao Yan, who had been mentioned earlier, was placed in the back of her mind. Although Xiao Yan had stirred a storm of commotion by killing Chen Yun and forcefully breaking the Nine Heavenly Lightning Prison Formation, these matters were attributed to the powerful spiritual body on him. There had been a lot of doubt about Xiao Yan's strength...

Such doubt was also possessed by her.

The remaining time passed during this monotonous wait. After such a wait continued for nearly three days, the energy in this place suddenly became turbulent...

The instant the energy in his surroundings changed, Xiao Yan, who had been seated on the top of a tree, finally opened his slightly shut eyes. An unusual expression flashed across his eyes.

"Is it finally about to begin..."

Chapter 993: Brief Fight

The enormous mountain range was covered in fog, appearing just like a Magical Beast from ancient times at this moment. Numerous deep rumbling sounds were emitted from the sky of the mountain range. Accompanying the appearance of these loud sounds was a vast energy that came from all directions.

“Boom!”

The vast energy churned quickly within the dense fog. In the end, it emitted a sound similar to the churning of ocean waves. This strange scene caused quite a number of people to let out an exclamation. Nature was indeed filled with mysteries.

The enormous energy tide accompanied the surging. A moment later, it charged through the clouds and spread in a crashing manner. This tide shocked some of the people who had remained in the sky, forcing them to rush down. If they were to be swept away by the frightening energy tide, even an elite Dou Zong would likely be hurt even if they did not die.

The enormous energy tide turned into a colorful one.. Under the sunlight, it appeared just like an incomparably spacious river. It hung in the sky, looking extremely gorgeous. However, under its brilliance hid a fatal danger.

Wave after wave of colorful energy spread out from within the mountain range in an unceasing manner. At this moment, quite a number of people had sensed the energy within the Heaven Eye Mountain Range become fierce and powerful. Its appearance was like the Heaven Eye Mountain Range had turned into a magnet that attracted all of the energy over.

Even Xiao Yan could not help but feel shocked in the face of this spectacular scene. By relying on his extraordinary Spiritual Perception, he could clearly sense the colorful energy within it had reached an extremely frightening level.

“This place is indeed worthy of being the Central Plains. Such a scene is not something that one would be blessed enough to see in other places...”

Xiao Yan stood up after letting out a soft laugh. His gaze was thrown toward the Heaven Eye Mountain Range. At this moment, the energy within the mountain range had become so dense that it caused one to be surprised. Although one would not be able to train for long within it, such an attempt would definitely make for some efficient training. No wonder so many people were attracted despite clearly knowing that there were only ten spots in the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool. It was likely that quite a number of people were planning to train within the mountain range during this period of time.

Xiao Yan's gaze shifted over the mountain range before finally pausing on the entrance. The great sea of people there had already begun to move. Regardless of where one was, the first always had some special benefit. It was likely that the first person who entered this Heaven Mountain Blood Pool would also obtain the best effect. Hence, everyone wanted to be that lucky first...

Xiao Yan's eyes looked at the sea of people only to end up smiling. There was a fiery heat within his eyes. The fight for this Heaven Mountain Blood Pool had somewhat exceeded his expectations. It was likely that this competition would also be quite exciting. Moreover, he also wanted to try and see just what level the members of the younger generation in the Central Plains were at.

“Bang!”

A chaotic sound of footsteps as well as a loud roar suddenly sounded while this thought lingered in Xiao Yan's heart. Immediately, he saw the large sea of people noisily moved, forming a human flow that wildly surged into the mountain range.

“Has it begun...”

The entire surroundings of the Heaven Eye Mountain Range had become fiery hot within an instant...

“Screech!”

A clear cry from a crane sounded and the enormous, colorful crane in the sky immediately flapped its gigantic wings. It flew down, bringing

about a wild wind along the way that caused the sea of people below to spread apart. Only some strong people were able to keep their body stable enough to borrow the force of the wind, allowing them to rush to the entrance of the mountain range.

“Elders, the both of you should wait outside of the mountain range. Leave the rest to me.” The colorful-dressed lady on the enormous crane glanced at the torrent-like human flow below before speaking faintly to the two old men on the enormous crane.

“Yes.” The two elders hurriedly nodded their heads when they heard her words.

The colorful-clothed lady smiled gently upon seeing this. This fight for the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool was a grand event that occurred once every three years. Moreover, most of those who joined were from the younger generation. Being able to stand out in this place was proof of one’s ability and talent.

The colorful-clothed lady pressed her toes gently on the crane’s head. With a twist of her delicate waist, she transformed into a colorful light that shot forward. In a couple of flashes, she appeared at the front of the flow of people. Her black hair danced in the wind behind her. This mesmerising scene caused quite a number of men to reveal a look of amazement in their eyes.

The colorful-clothed lady did not turn her head around to look at the sea of people behind her. Although she knew that there were some people who were quite skilled behind her, these people did not reach the level where they could catch her attention.

The colorful lady’s toes pressed against empty air and a faint silver glow appeared. She looked at the entrance within close proximity and the corner of her mouth was involuntarily lifted into a faint arc. Her figure was just like a noble phoenix that descended toward the entrance.

“Chi!”

The rushing sound of rapid wind suddenly appeared when the colorful-clothed lady was about to fly into the entrance. Something flashed over

extremely quickly. Within two breaths, the figure had rushed above the lady's head.

The sudden appearance of the human figure also caused the colorful-clothed lady to be slightly startled. Her brows were immediately knit together as her hand was clenched toward the human figure in front of her. A fierce suction force immediately surged from her hand.

“Hmph!”

That human figure merely let out a cold snort in the face of this colorful-clothed lady's attempt to stop him. He flipped his hand and a wild and violent wind surged out of his sleeves. The two invisible winds collided in mid-air, emitting a low, deep sound as they did so. With the aid of the repulsion force, the human figure drew an arc through the air, landing in the mountain range.

“Dammit, who is that little fellow? He has actually entered the mountain range ahead of Miss Feng?”

“Ha ha, the old me has said that with so many present, there will definitely be dark horses appearing. It is just that I did not expect it to be so soon...”

“.....”

The expression of the colorful-clothed lady was quite ugly after seeing that an unknown person had actually entered before her. She let out a snort in the face of the noise behind her. Her body moved, transforming into a figure that quickly entered the mountain range.

.....

The mountain range was covered with a dense fog. This fog contained a somewhat wild, violent energy that greatly limited one's sight.

A figure broke through the forest and entered this quiet mountain range. He gently landed on the ground, revealing a young face. This figure was Xiao Yan.

“She is indeed worthy of being called the most outstanding person

among the younger generation within the Wind Lightning Pavilion. She does possess some ability...” Xiao Yan glanced behind him after landing on the ground, and laughed within his heart. Immediately, he threw his gaze all around him and involuntarily let out a frown. The energy fog was too dense. Additionally, this Heaven Eye Mountain Range was vast. It was going to be difficult to reach the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool.

A graceful colorful figure landed within the mountain range while Xiao Yan was frowning. Her pretty eyes swept around her and instantly paused on the back of a person not far in front of her.

Xiao Yna did not turn his head despite sensing the slight activity behind him. Instead, his body moved and swiftly rushed into the mountain range.

“Halt!”

The colorful-clothed lady immediately cried out coldly upon seeing that Xiao Yan was about to leave.

However, Xiao Yan appeared to have not heard her cry. His footsteps had instead become even faster.

“Chi!”

The rushing sound of wind suddenly appeared behind him while Xiao Yan was increasing his pace. His expression turned slightly chilly. His footsteps staggered as a colorful satin accompanied by a sharp wind shot past his head, narrowly missing it. Finally, the colorful satin penetrated through an enormous tree in front of him.

Although the colorful satin seemed to be made of cloth, it possessed a metallic luster. Clearly, it was not an ordinary item.

Surprise also flashed through the pretty eyes of the colorful-clothed lady when she saw Xiao Yan strangely dodge her attack. Her hand shook and another colorful satin shot out from her sleeves. This satin appeared like a poisonous snake that curled in midair and trickily entwined around Xiao Yan.

A fury had also risen in Xiao Yan’s heart in the face of this lady’s repeated disturbance. He abruptly turned around and extended his hand in

a lightning-like manner, grabbing the satin that shot over as he did so. A jade-green flame appeared in his palm before immediately touching the satin, turning it into a fire trail that shot toward the lady.

The colorful-clothed lady's face turned cold when she saw the fire trail heading over. A powerful green-silver Dou Qi that seemed to be the merger of wind and lightning shot along the satin. Finally, it violently collided with the trail of fire.

“Bang!”

A low, deep explosion erupted in this quiet mountain range. These two powerful energies scattered most of the dense fog around. A half a meter deep pit appeared on the ground.

At this moment, quite a number of people had entered the mountain range. They hurriedly rushed over upon hearing the activity in this area. All of them were startled when they saw that the person fighting was the renowned Miss Feng. Their surprised eyes were quickly thrown toward the unfamiliar-looking man opposite her. Someone who could exchange blows with her was definitely not an ordinary person.

“A Dou Qi formed from the merger of wind and lightning? Miss Feng from the Wind Lightning Pavilion does live up to her reputation.” Xiao Yan's eyes stared intently at the colorful-clothed lady as he slowly spoke. At the same time, the colorful satin did not show any signs of breaking despite having experienced such a violent attack.

It was indeed unexpected that this woman possessed a body that contained two elements. Such a constitution might not be as rare as the ‘Woeful Poison Body,’ but it was also seldom seen. If one were to talk about it, Xiao Yan could be also considered to possess a body that contained two elemental affinities, fire and wood. Of course, the fire affinity formed the majority of his constitution while wood was only present in a small amount. This was the case for every single alchemist since this was the requirement.

A two elemental affinity constitution was not very suitable for training because the elements were not pure. It was still alright for a constitution

like that of Xiao Yan. The wood affinity only occupied a small part of his body. However, this woman in front of him was not only able to train until now, but was actually able to perfectly merge these two elemental Dou Qis together. The strength of this merged Dou Qi would soar...

“By being able to destroy my Wind Lightning Pavilion’s Nine Heavenly Lightning Prison Formation and successfully escape from northern pavilion chief Fei Tian’s hands, you also live up to your reputation...” The colorful-clothed lady’s pretty eyes focused intently on the skinny, young man in front of her before suddenly laughing softly, “Don’t you agree, Xiao Yan?”

The faces of the surrounding people suddenly paled when these words were uttered!

Chapter 994: Black Clothed Man

“Xiao Yan? He is the Xiao Yan who killed Chen Yun?”

Numerous stunned gazes were looking at the young man a short distance away within a forest that was permeated by fog. The name Xiao Yan had been spread wildly during this period of time. It was rare that someone from the younger generation could force an expert like Fei Tian to personally act. Moreover, the thing that was even more shocking was that this person was able to escape from Fei Tian's hands. This really stunned many people. There was hardly anyone within the northern region of the Central Plains who did not know just how terrifying that old demon Fei Tian was.

Xiao Yan eyebrows merely knit together in the face of the many gazes that contained various emotions from around him. His arm shook and the colorful satin in his hand was shot back before it was withdrawn into the sleeves of the colorfully dressed lady.

“You can walk your own path and I will take my own route. If you don't disturb me, I will also not attack you...” Xiao Yan stared at the colorfully dressed lady as he slowly spoke. He could sense that the strength of this lady was quite great. Moreover, had been picked as the most probable candidate for the position of the next Wind Lightning Pavilion's leader. Xiao Yan definitely did not believe that she did not possess any skill. Currently, Xiao Yan's aim was to become one of those ten names. Thus, he did not want to engage in a direct conflict with her. Naturally, he did not wish to waste his efforts right from the start.

“What an arrogant tone... I will also not attack you now. I will wait for you at the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool. If you have the qualifications to reach that place, we will settle the grudge that you and the Wind Lightning Pavilion possess.” The colorful-clothed lady's pretty eyes looked at Xiao Yan as she softly laughed. Her laughter contained a coldness.

“Of course, if you have been defeated before you even reach the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool, it will only mean that all the things that you have

accomplished are due to you borrowing the strength of others.”

The colorful-clothed lady pressed her toes on the ground after her voice sounded. Her body was like a dancing butterfly. She pulled back with a flash before swiftly disappearing into the thick fog.

Xiao Yan laughed coldly in his heart when he saw the colorful-clothed lady withdraw. His gaze swept all around him as he slowly walked in another direction. A moment later, he disappeared within the fog in front of many gazes.

“It’s a pity that they did not actually fight. I wonder just who would be stronger if the two of them were to really exchange blows?” The surrounding crowd inevitably became disappointed after watching these two people take separate routes, leaving upon meeting each other.

“Hee hee, they are not fighting now because they wish to preserve some strength. There are many powerful Magical Beast within the Heaven Eye Mountain Range. The surroundings of the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool are extremely concentrated with them. If one wishes to charge through this Magical Beast crowd and arrive at the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool without having some ability, it is likely that the person is only courting death for no reason. However, these two people will definitely engage in a fierce fight once they arrive at their destination.”

Everyone began to head their own way after the private conversations persisted for a short while. Some of them were alone while others were in groups. After which, all of them entered the mountain range. Due to the interior of the mountain range possessing a dense energy fog, the effect obtained from possessing a map was also limited. Some people could only rely on their luck to search, testing to see if their luck was any good.

The quiet mountain range had gradually become lively as everyone spread out. An unknown number of people had entered the Heaven Eye Mountain Range this time around. This large number of people had caused this mountain range, which was renowned for its many Magical Beasts, to become filled with energy. Of course, there was a hidden danger amid this liveliness.

However, danger and reward coexisted together. There were many Magical Beasts in the Heaven Eye Mountain Range. Adding this onto the unusually dense energy, these mountains did not lack natural treasures. If one was lucky enough to find something, it was likely that one would have gained a lot even without being one of the ten people to enter the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool.

On the whole, the Heaven Eye Mountain Range might be filled with danger, but it could also be considered a treasure mountain. As long as one possessed sufficient luck and ability, it was not difficult to return with many rewards...

.....

Xiao Yan's figure flashed and appeared within the forest that was permeated by fog. His gaze swept around him as he frowned. This fog was blended with energy that could not be expelled. It greatly hindered one's sight. A person was just like a headless housefly within it, repeatedly running around in a random manner.

"The map is completely useless. The only thing that I know is that the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool is located in the deep regions of the Heaven Eye Mountain Range. However, how long will it take to reach the deep region if I continue to randomly roam around?" Xiao Yan paused his footsteps and mused for a moment. His body suddenly leaped and appeared on the top of a tree branch. His eyes swept around before he swiftly leaped up. A moment later, he finally appeared on the top of a tree.

Xiao Yan stood at the treetop and swept his eyes around only to be stunned to realize that the fog on it was even denser. His gaze was unable to see anything even if it was less than ten meters from him. Xiao Yan raised his head and looked up. He involuntarily pulled his neck in upon doing so because an enormous colorful energy tide was spreading out from above. A wave of energy pressure that could not be resisted spread out, causing one to feel afraid.

"I cannot use old mister Yao's strength within the Heaven Eye Mountain Range. Otherwise, the effect would be unpredictable. Hence, I can only

rely on myself...” Xiao Yan softly sighed. He knew that the Miss Feng was definitely clearly aware of the route to reach the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool. With the ability of the Wind Lightning Pavilion, they should be quite familiar with this Heaven Eye Mountain Range. The problem of the fog should have long been expected by them. Hence, she was able to rush to the destination without any fear and save the time wasted on other routes.

Since the Wind Lightning Pavilion had a clear route, the other factions like the Ten Thousand Sword Pavilion and some of the weaker factions would likely have also made preparations. Thus, it was likely that their numbers would exceed ten. Xiao Yan was quite far behind them on just this first step.

“It is good to possess a faction behind one... the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool will appear one day after the energy tide appears. In other words, I must reach that place within one day. Otherwise, I will not have the blessing of enjoying the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool...”

Xiao Yan bitterly laughed. He mused for a moment before he suddenly sat down with his legs crossed. His Spiritual Perception swiftly spread from between his brows...

Although Xiao Yan was unaware of the exact location of the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool, it was likely that the formation of this unique blood pool, in the middle of the mountain range, would require an unusually great amount of pure energy. In other words, the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool would be the region with the most powerful energy in the entire mountain range. Xiao Yan's spiritual perception could use this as a medium to search. As long as he locked onto the area with the densest energy and go all out to rush there, it was likely that nothing would go wrong.

Following the swift spread of Xiao Yan's Spiritual Perception, the traces of energy ripple within a five kilometer radius was clearly reflected into Xiao Yan's mind. The direction in which the energy flow was also gradually grasped by Xiao Yan...

“The north huh...”

Xiao Yan's tightly shut eyes were suddenly opened around half an hour later. His gaze suddenly turned to the north. From his perception, this mountain range's energy seemed to be faintly gathering in that direction.

Xiao Yan leaped forward after locking onto a position. He came down from the tree and landed gently onto the ground, shocking a person who was coincidentally present in this spot. As the person hurriedly stepped back, the weapon in their hand emitted a 'clang' sound as it was being drawn.

Xiao Yan ignored this fellow who appeared extremely frightening. His toes pressed on the ground and his body transformed into a black figure which charged into the dense fog in a lightning-like manner. After which, he rapidly traveled through the forest, hurrying over to the energy gathering spot located by his Spiritual Perception at his fastest speed.

Xiao Yan discovered quite a number of people being pestered by Magical Beast along the way. They were engaged in intense fights. However, he did not stop. His figure shifted past in a ghost-like manner. With the help of his outstanding Spiritual Perception, he was able to sense if there was any hidden Magical Beasts within the dense fog one step ahead of the others. Hence, he had avoided being blocked by Magical Beast during his travel. His advancement speed was so quick that it was frightening.

Xiao Yan used this fierce and swift speed to advance for an hour before he gradually slowed down a little. Following his gradual entrance into the deep regions of the mountain range, the strength of the Magical Beasts hidden within the dense fog also seemed stronger. He would definitely attract the Magical Beasts over if he continued to fearlessly advance. Although Xiao Yan was not afraid, he really did not wish to end up slowing down because of them.

.....

Xiao Yan's toes pressed on a tree branch and his figure agily rushed forward. His eyes carefully swept all around him, and he did not create even the slightest sound when he landed on the ground, appearing just like a ghost.

Xiao Yan's figure once again leaped onto an enormous tree. He was just about to charge forward when his heart moved. His gaze looked toward a spot not far in front of him. A human and a beast were fighting at that spot.

When he saw the large Magical Beast, Xiao Yan narrowed his eyes a little. He was a little startled in his heart as he said, "It is actually a rank 6 Magical Beast?"

Xiao Yan's gaze paused on the Magical Beast. After which, it turned to the human figure facing the beast. Anyone who could reach this place at this time was definitely not an ordinary person. The person in front of him was likely not an exception.

The human figure was wearing light-black clothes and looked quite young. His face was cold and he was carrying a large blue sword on his back. There was a sharp sword aura vaguely being emitted from it. From the looks of the scars around him, it was likely that this person had already exchanged blows with this rank 6 Magical Beast. However, his clothes still remained clean. Clearly, he was not at a disadvantage.

The black-clothed man's face moved slightly when Xiao Yan arrived at this place. His hand slowly grabbed the sword hilt on his back and his footsteps gently shifted. Immediately, he rushed forward.

Seeing the actions of the black-clothed man, the rank 6 Magical Beast emitted a roar. It moved its four legs and viciously pounced toward him.

"Chi!"

The man and beast crossed each other in a lightning-like manner. A sword glow was emitted in a fleeting manner.

"Clang!"

The black-clothed man stood straight and the longsword in his hand was slowly inserted into the scabbard behind him. The large Magical Beast had collapsed on the ground.

"What a fast sword movement..."

Xiao Yan's eyes narrowed slightly. With his eyesight, he was only able to vaguely see the black-clothed young man drawing the sword. This person was quite powerful.

“Have you seen enough?”

The black-clothed man slowly raised his head while Xiao Yan was stunned in his heart. After which, his gaze shot toward Xiao Yan as he asked with a faint voice.

Chapter 995: Old Acquaintance

Xiao Yan ceased hiding after seeing that he had been discovered. He revealed himself, swept his gaze over the black-clothed man, and said, "I am only passing by. There is no need to be anxious."

The eyes of the black-clothed man coldly studied Xiao Yan. The other party's age seemed to be a little younger than him. However, based on his sharp senses honed from having fought with others for many years, the man could vaguely sense a slight dangerous feeling from Xiao Yan. His heart was slightly startled. Although he clearly knew that those who could arrive at this place at such a time definitely had some skills, there were not many who could cause him to feel a little danger.

"I am Tang Ying from the Ten Thousand Sword Pavilion. You seem a little unfamiliar. May I know which faction do you belong to or which clan do you come from?" The black-clothed young man cupped his hands to Xiao Yan as he inquired. He had heard about a little of the experts from the younger generation within the Central Plains. However, this was indeed the first time whom he had seen the person in front of him. Therefore, he had asked in a more detailed fashion. It was right to ask a little more when one roamed the world. The worst were those people who do not know their limits and think that their father is the strongest when they are nothing. Fortunately, this Ten Thousand Sword Pavilion Tang Ying was not such a person. Otherwise, he might well end up being finished in this place. That would be a pity to his half a lifetime of training and the great expectations from his faction.

"Ten Thousand Sword Pavilion?" Xiao Yan felt startled in his heart when he heard this name. It was unexpected that this person was someone from the Ten Thousand Sword Pavilion. Moreover, the name Tang Ying was one that he had heard of when he had been outside of the mountain range. He was also a young, talented person who was comparable to Miss Feng from the Wing Lightning Pavilion.

Xiao Yan hesitated for a moment before cupping his hands together and replying, "Xiao Yan."

“Xiao Yan?”

A shock expression appeared on Tang Ying’s cold face when he heard this name. He looked at Xiao Yan and said, “The Xiao Yan who has recently had a fiery hot conflict with the Wind Lightning Pavilion?”

Xiao Yan smiled and mentioned casually, “It is merely a little conflict.”

Tang Ying’s eyes involuntarily changed a little when he heard direct acknowledgement from Xiao Yan. He was naturally aware of the conflict between Xiao Yan and the Wind Lightning Pavilion during this period of time. Even if his ability to break through the Nine Heavenly Lightning Prison Formation placed by the three Elders was really due to him borrowing the strength of others as the rumors had said, it was still quite outstanding. Looking at it this way, there was another strong opponent in the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool competition this time around in addition to the people from the other three pavilions.

“A small conflict would not be able to draw out an old demon like Fei Tian.” Tang Ying also did not seem like a talkative person. After randomly saying some words, he did not wish to stay any longer. He said, “Now is not the time to chat. Hopefully, I will be able to meet you at the Heaven Mountain Stage. At that time, we might be able to work together.”

Tang Ying did not wait for Xiao Yan’s reply after saying such words. His figure moved and he swiftly entered the dense fog. He disappeared within the blink of an eye.

Xiao Yan helplessly shook his head upon seeing that this fellow was walking so quickly. These fellows seemed to possess a cautious mind. Xiao Yan wanted to walk together with a person who knew the way, but the other party seemed to be unwilling to contribute his resources to be shared. However, it made sense when Xiao Yan thought about it. If there was one additional person who reached the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool, there would be an additional competitor. Who would want to find an opponent for themselves for no reason...

“But what is this Heaven Mountain Stage that this fellow mentioned? Ugh, this place is really foreign to me and all the information is indeed

hidden...” Xiao Yan frowned. He let out a soft sigh as his toes pressed on a tree branch. His body was just like a large bird that plunged down. Finally, he also charged into the dense fog.

Xiao Yan also lost the ease that he had felt earlier in the subsequent journey because the strength of the Magical Beasts around him was gradually growing stronger. Moreover, quite a number of Magical Beasts were quite troublesome to deal with. Even though Xiao Yan relied on his Spiritual Perception, he was still unable to successfully escape all of them. Naturally, he had no choice but to fight. Hence, his speed was greatly reduced.

However, Xiao Yan had no other choice. He did not have a path and it was impossible for him to come to this place without relying on the flow of energy to act as a signboard. The Heaven Eye Mountain Range was incomparably vast. This, along with the lingering fog, made it appear just like a maze.

The number of people around decreased the deeper Xiao Yan headed into the mountain range. Xiao Yan had only met two others after Tang Ying. These two people were quite strong with the both of them being at the Dou Huang class. They were engaged in an intense battle with a rank 6 Magical Beast when Xiao Yan discovered them. However, it was clear that these two people’s perception was not as sharp as Tang Ying. Hence, they did not discover Xiao Yan’s trail. All they did was roughly observe their surroundings before quietly leaving.

Time also swiftly flowed by while Xiao Yan was charging ahead. Following the change in the weather, the visibility within the forest was gradually reduced. In the end, one could not even see one’s five fingers. Following the arrival of night, the Magical Beasts within the Heaven Eye Mountain Range seemed to have become more active. Numerous beast roars repeatedly sounded before reverberating across the mountain range.

This kind of environment was extremely unsuitable for traveling. It was likely that even Miss Feng, Tang Ying, and the others who possessed a map would stop traveling at this time. An entire day of traveling and fighting with Magical Beasts would have exhausted them. If they did not

take the opportunity to quickly recuperate, it was likely that they would have difficulty enduring the rest of the way to the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool.

Xiao Yan also hesitated in the face of this kind of terrible environment to travel. However, after musing for a moment, he clenched his teeth. He only rested for a moment before beginning to travel.

Xiao Yan was clearly aware that he had used a trick by relying on sensing the flow of the energy. However, this would definitely widen the gap between him and those like Tang Ying. Ever since he had met Tang Ying during the day, Xiao Yan was unable to discover Tang Ying's figure regardless of how quickly Xiao Yan traveled. It was likely that he was much further ahead...

Hence, if Xiao Yan truly wish to catch up to those fellows, he needed to travel during the night. This might be quite dangerous, but it was fortunate that by relying on his Spiritual Perception, Xiao Yan could try his best to reduce the level of danger...

Xiao Yan's feet violently stomped on a tree branch. The powerful and fierce force caused the large tree to violently tremble. His figure had also transformed into a blurry black shadow, swiftly shuttling through this dark forest.

"Bang!"

A figure suddenly flashed within the dark forest where one could not even see one's fingers. Immediately, a palm was violently imprinted on the body of a Magical Beast hidden to the side. The force surged out and shook the beast until it heavily collided against a tree trunk. It had lost its life before it had the time to let out a roar.

"Hu..."

A human figure gently landed on a tree branch amid the darkness. He let out a rough breath and a Moonlight Stone was lifted. Warm light was emitted, and was immediately reflected by the surrounding fog. However, Xiao Yan's young face was revealed with the help of the light.

The night journey was much harder than Xiao Yan had expected. Quite a number of powerful and cunning Magical Beasts were hidden in the darkness. They were just like hunters waiting for their prey to deliver themselves to them. If Xiao Yan did not have the help of his Spiritual Perception, it was likely that at least over ten injuries would have appeared on his body. The danger of the Heaven Eye Mountain Range had exceeded his expectations.

Xiao Yan took out a medicinal pill and stuffed it in his mouth as his gaze glanced at the the corpse of the Magical Beast a short distance away. He quickly sat crossed-legged. Traveling through the night had exhausted him. Additionally, fighting with those troublesome Magical Beast along the way had used up quite a bit of his strength.

Xiao Yan only slowly opened his eyes after resting for nearly half an hour. He once again sensed the energy flow in the mountain range, and there was a little joy in his eyes. The feeling of the flow was becoming increasingly obvious. Clearly, Xiao Yan was getting closer to that location.

"I should put in more effort. Hopefully, I will be able to catch up to those fellows before morning arrives..."

Xiao Yan licked his mouth and quietly laughed. His body moved, transforming into a black figure that once again entered the dark forest...

Xiao Yan did not spend much time resting during the night. Most of it was spent traveling. However, this bitter journey was not without effect. There were a total of five to six people who were overtaken by Xiao Yan during his journey. These fellows were involuntarily a little stunned when they saw his human figure shuffling through the darkness. This person... was a little too bold.

Xiao Yan was unconcerned about the shock in these people's heart. He was able to sense the light within the forest was gradually becoming much brighter. Clearly, night was gradually withdrawing.

When the sky gradually brightened, the Magical Beasts, which were unusually active at night, also gradually withdrew. The beast roars in the mountain range had also weakened.

Xiao Yan landed gently on a gigantic tree. His hand grabbed at the empty space in front of him. The powerful energy that was contained within the fog caused his face to reveal his shock.

“The density of the energy in this place is incredible. No wonder it is able to form a mysterious thing like the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool. It is likely that this place is already in the deepest regions of the Heaven Eye Mountain Range...” Xiao Yan softly muttered. He immediately braced his attention. Looking at this, it seemed that he was about to arrive at his destination.

Xiao Yan parted his mouth. His face also involuntarily revealed a smile that seemed to have placed a heavy burden down. He was just about to move when his ear suddenly moved. The faint sound of blades colliding as well as energy exploding was transmitted over from a spot not far to his left.

Xiao Yan’s gaze glanced toward his left before it was quickly withdrawn. He had seen a lot of similar situations along the way. Xiao Yan was not a saint and did not spend the effort to help each person he passes. With a shake of his head, Xiao Yan moved his toes, and continued forward.

However, the instant he was about to move, a moving lady’s cry penetrated through the fog and was transmitted into Xiao Yan’s ears. Immediately, his figure, which was about to flash away, completely stiffened!

This voice was moving and wonderful. It was likely that its owner was a beauty. Moreover, Xiao Yan was not unfamiliar with this voice. He even felt that it had stirred a particularly deep memory!

Chapter 996: Meeting Nalan Yanran Again

Over a dozen Moonlight Stones were inserted into the surrounding tree trunks of an empty area within the forest. The light that they emitted caused this area to appear quite bright. The dense fog had also been scattered by the big battle that had occurred earlier. Hence, it had resulted in this place becoming much more visible.

There were five figures in the empty ground. Four were male and one was female. Their strengths were all quite great. Clearly, they were not weaklings. Moreover, this kind of aura was not something that an ordinary person could emit. The five auras were similarly strong.

One of the four men was wearing deep-yellow clothing. Additionally, there was a knife scar on his face. He was currently sitting on a tree branch, leaning against the tree trunk. His gaze lazily swept over the place below as he faintly said, "Hurry up..."

The other three men on the ground hurriedly nodded their heads upon hearing this person speak. The three of them were wearing yellow-colored robes and wore a similar badge on their chests. It seemed that they belonged to the same faction.

"Hand over the Psychic White Fox. It is not as though we have not done something like killing a woman..."

The lady was holding a longsword in her hand. Her pale-green clothing wrapped around her exquisite figure until it was vividly displayed. Her voluminous figure was extremely attractive, and her black hair, which was randomly restrained by a green-colored cloth, extended to her lovely buttocks. That young and pretty appearance of hers was not foreign. It was surprisingly Nalan Yanran who had accompanied Yun Yun in leaving Jia Ma Empire back then.

A couple of years had passed. The current Nalan Yanran no longer had the tenderness that she had back then. When she moved, she would emit

an alluring mature attraction. The pampered young lady back then had truly become a great beauty that could bring destruction to cities and empires.

TL: Extreme beauty is said to be able to cause destruction of empires because they tend to be able to distract the ruler from doing the right things or from working

There was a lovely little white-colored fox on Nalan Yanran's shoulders. This white fox had snow-white fur which was extremely smooth. At a glance, one would have the feeling of liking it too much to put it down. It possessed lethal impact on women.

At this moment, the pair of intelligent eyes belonging to this white fox were roaming all around. It seemed that the killing intent, which was permeating from the bodies of the tree people on the opposite side, had caused the snow-white fur to show signs of trembling. A soft babbling was emitted from its mouth.

Nalan Yanran seemed to have sensed the fear of the little, white fox. She gently rubbed its head before slowly raising her head. Those pretty eyes of hers were icily staring at the three people opposite her. She tightened her grip on the longsword as a sharp sword aura slowly surged out. Two ice-cold words were also softly emitted from her mouth.

"Dream on."

"Hee hee, what a stubborn beauty. However, you are a little too stubborn. With your five star Dou Huang strength, you can forget about escaping from the hands of the three of us. Obediently hand over the white fox. Otherwise, I would not mind enjoying just how much ecstasy such a beauty would give..." A yellow-clothed man stared at Nalan Yanran with a searing gaze. He involuntarily licked his lips, and his eyes contained a lewd look.

Nalan Yanran's pretty face had also become even icier upon hearing such despicable words from this fellow. The strength of the three people across from her were around that of a four star Dou Huang. If it had been one-on-one, she was confident that she could kill them within a short

period of time. However, if these three were to attack together, she would have difficulty blocking them. Moreover, these three people belonged to the same faction. They collaborated well with one another. During the earlier exchange, she had nearly suffered a disadvantage. The thing which gave her the most pressure was the man who had been sitting on the tree. This person had not attacked since the beginning. However, Nalan Yanran sensed a faint pressure when facing him from the opposite side. Clearly, the other party's strength was much stronger than hers.

“The Ground Spirit Gate is indeed a place where garbage is produced.”

The expressions of the three yellow-clothed men became slightly colder when they saw that Nalan Yanran had identified their faction. With their strength, they were also considered the elites within the younger generation of the Ground Spirit Gate. Although they could not be compared with people like Tang Ying and Miss Feng, they still had some reputation. If they had not needed the Psychic White Fox to lead the way when they entered the Heaven Eye Mountain Range, they would not have become enemies with a five star Dou Huang for no reason. However, since they had already done so, there was naturally no way to change things.

The three of them exchanged glances. Immediately, they nodded slightly and decided not to continue getting entangled in this matter. Their bodies moved and formed a triangular shape, surrounding Nalan Yanran. Powerful deep-yellow Dou Qi surged out of their bodies.

“Ground Drawing Prison!”

The hands of the three of them violently landed on the ground. The land shook and the soil rapidly churned. Rock fragments shot out. In the blink of an eye, a cage that was formed from the soil broke out of the ground and trapped Nalan Yanran within.

Nalan Yanran knit her brows upon seeing this. Her feet pressed on the ground and her lovely body was like a spinning top that swiftly rotated. Sharp sword aura shot in all directions and viciously cut at the cage, causing many cut lines to quickly appear.

The three yellow-clothed men fiercely slammed their hands on the

ground when they saw that the cage was swiftly collapsing under Nalan Yanran's hands. Three yellow-colored spears, created from mud, immediately shot out of the ground. After which, they were quickly grabbed by the three of them. Their feet stomped on the ground as they shot toward Nalan Yanran in the middle.

Nalan Yanran did not dare to slight the combined attack of three four star Dou Huangs. The longsword in her hand was wrapped by powerful sword aura as it trickily and viciously pierced out in a lightning-like manner.

“Chi! Chi!”

Four figures exchanged blows within the cage in a lightning-like manner. Sword aura spread everywhere, forming numerous deep gullies in the ground. The three yellow-clothed men seemed to be aware of the sharpness of Nalan Yanran's sword aura. Therefore, they did not forcefully attack. Instead, they relied on their long lasting ground affinity Dou Qi to slowly exhaust her Dou Qi.

Nalan Yanran was similarly aware of the exhaustion tactic the three had adopted. However, she did not have any means to deal with it. These three people were cooperating extremely well and had firmly restricted her from the beginning. This caused her to lack even the slightest opportunity to rest. If this were to be prolonged, Dou Qi deficiency would result in the interior of her body...

Clang! Clang! Clang!

The longsword pierced into the three spear tips in a lightning-like manner. Nalan Yanran's pretty face turned cold as sharp sword auras suddenly shot out!

“Bang!”

Three mud spears were blown apart when they were struck by the sword aura. However, before Nalan Yanran could continue pressing her attack, the ground shook and an enormous sharp mud pillar shot out, causing her to hurriedly withdraw.

When Nalan Yanran's body landed, the three people on across from her formed more long spears. A deep-yellow armor had also appeared on their bodies at this moment, covering them with firm protection. Ground affinity Qi Methods usually specialized in being long lasting defenses...

"You are worthy of being a five star Dou Huang by being so troublesome to deal with. However, it will end here. With the Dou Qi in your body, it is likely that you will not be able to endure for long. Hand the Psychic White Fox over to us and we will let you off." A low, deep sound was emitted from the deep-yellow armor.

"You can use these words to trick a three year old child." Nalan Yanran coldly laughed when she heard this. She was no longer that young lady from back then. Her experience in the Central Plains during these years had also allowed her to understand quite a lot of principles.

"Stubborn fool. You're seeking death!"

The three of them became impatient when they saw that Nalan Yanran still would not submit. Their hands faced each other from a distance and six deep-yellow-colored Dou Qi light pillars shot out. Immediately, they transformed into a triangular shape of encircling light.

"The Spirit of Land, Earth Melting Skill!"

The three people cried out sharply. Deep-yellow Dou Qi swiftly agglomerated in front of one of them. That powerful Dou Qi, that had gathered the strength of the three of them, caused even Nalan Yanran to change her expression.

When the cry sounded, the deep-yellow Dou Qi swiftly became distorted. Immediately, it transformed into a ferocious Earth Dragon. It let out a roar and transformed into a light ray with a bang. Finally, it shot straight toward Nalan Yanran. A deep gully appeared on the empty ground where it passed, appearing like a bull plowing the fields...

"This Earth Melting Skill of the Ground Spirit Gate does possess some uniqueness..." The man on the tree branch glanced at the Earth Dragon in front of him and softly said.

Nalan Yanran clenched her silver teeth as she looked at the Earth Dragon ferociously shooting over. Her hand tossed the little white fox on her shoulders aside, and a deep-green-colored Dou Qi swiftly formed a wind wall in front of her.

“Bang!”

The Earth Dragon collided with the wind wall. The sharp wind blades that comprised the wall cut the Earth Dragon until it repeatedly trembled. However, this did not successfully stop the Earth Dragon’s attack. Both parties continued in this state for a moment before the wind wall exploded with a bang.

Nalan Yanran was revealed to the Earth Dragon when the wind wall burst apart. It immediately roared at the former as its ferocious mouth bit down at Nalan Yanran’s head.

Nalan Yanran’s pretty face became slightly pale when she saw the Earth Dragon in close proximity. She was just about to use her Dou Qi when she was shocked to realize that her body had been entwined by an unusual black-colored energy.

“Bang!”

A sharp wind forming a fist shot over from the dense fog a short distance away just when the Earth Dragon was about to pounce onto Nalan Yanran. It immediately smashed into the Earth Dragon. It shook before transforming into light spots that burst apart.

The sudden unexpected change surprised everyone. This included the man in the tree branch. He threw his somewhat shocked eyes toward the spot where the fist wind had been emitted.

“Who is it? I am Huang Tian from the Ground Spirit Gate. Friend, please do not meddle in other people’s business!”

The yellow-clothed man swept his gaze cautiously around him as he spoke with a deep voice.

“Aren’t you afraid of throwing away the face of the Ground Spirit Gate by having so many men bully a girl?” A mocking laugh was emitted from

the dense fog. Immediately, soft footsteps sounded. A moment later, a skinny figure appeared in front of everyone's eyes.

Nalan Yanran, who was still in a state of shock, raised her head as she looked at the figure that was slowly walking out of the dense fog. She was just about to voice her thanks when she saw that face. Her body immediately stiffened. Her entire mind also seemed to have stilled at this moment. It was a long while later before she softly spoke the name, which was hidden deep in her memory, with some difficulty and disbelief...

“Xiao... Xiao Yan?”

Chapter 997: Wang Chen

Xiao Yan smiled slightly as he looked at the pretty face, filled with disbelief. His voice had become much gentler as he softly asked, "Are you alright?"

Those matters back then had completely vanished the moment the Misty Cloud Sect had disband. Xiao Yan was not a narrow-minded person. He had gradually forgotten those matters. When he recalled them now, he could only describe them as the frivolousness of youth.

Nalan Yanran was also a little startled at the gentle manner in which Xiao Yan spoke. She had seldom seen Xiao Yan speak to her in such a calm manner. After all, she was aware of just what kind of trouble and harm that the events back then had brought to this prideful man.

"I'm fine... thank you."

Nalan Yanran's pretty eyes flickered slightly while she shook her head and softly replied.

"It seems that this friend really want to act like a hero rescuing a beauty." The expressions of the three yellow-clothed men sank when they saw Xiao Yan ignore them right from the beginning. The one who called himself Huang Tian earlier confronted him with a gloomy voice.

"Get lost."

Xiao Yan did not shift his eyes even a little as he softly spoke. After which, he slowly walked to Nalan Yanran's side and glanced at the black-colored energy that was entwined around her body. He involuntarily laughed with a soft cold voice, "Darkness affinity Dou Qi is really rare. However, you actually launched a sneak attack despite your strength. This is really rather disdainful."

Xiao Yan grabbed Nalan Yanran's snow-white wrist after saying those words. A wisp of jade-green flame surfaced on the tip of his finger before it shot out in a lightning-like manner.

In the face of Xiao Yan's swiftly flicked finger, the black-colored energy

which entwined around Nalan Yanran's body appeared like snow that had met fire as it swiftly melted.

The man in deep-yellow clothes on the tree branch narrowed his eyes as he looked at Xiao Yan below. This was especially the case when he saw him easily expel the black-colored energy on Nalan Yanran's body, causing his eyes to involuntarily shrink a little more.

As the black-colored energy on her body gradually disappeared, Nalan Yanran also once again recovered her freedom and gently opened her palm. Seeing this, Xiao Yan also hurriedly released his hand. He was just about to speak when Nalan Yanran's expression changed slightly. She hurriedly cried, "Be careful!"

Xiao Yan, who was facing Nalan Yanran, smiled. He immediately turned his body around and his heavy ruler appeared in his hand. The heavy ruler contained a powerful wind as it was violently swung.

"Crack."

The black ruler violently smashed into three long spears. The powerful force shattered the long spears into pieces. Seeing this, a shock surfaced within the hearts of Huang Tian and the other two. They threw aside the spear handles in their hands and swiftly pulled back.

Xiao Yan's eyes indifferently swept over the three of them. The heavy ruler in his hand was inserted into the ground. His feet stomped on the ground and a wind lightning sound appeared. His body also strangely disappeared.

Huang Tian and the other two were startled when they saw Xiao Yan disappear in a strange manner. They were just about succeed in positioning their backs to face each other to protect themselves when a ghost-like figure appeared in front of them. Sharp wind made of fists suddenly arrived and viciously landed on the armor on the surface of their bodies.

"Bang!"

The fists landed heavily on the three of them. At the same time, a

terrifying force came pouring out. Those three were just like kites whose strings had broken. They flew backwards before colliding into a couple of large trees. A mouthful of fresh blood was spat out of each of their mouths.

Defeating three four stars Dou Huangs with just a single move. Nalan Yanran's hand involuntarily covered her red lips when she saw this scene. Immediately, her gaze was filled with complexity while looking at that skinny back. This young man, whom she once thought of as trash, had walked ahead of her. All she could do was look up to him. It was the case a couple of years ago and it was still the case now that a couple of years had passed...

Huang Tian and the other two curled together on the ground like prawns, moaning. The armor on their bodies had been shattered by one punch from Xiao Yan. They could not understand just why they were unable to even withstand a blow from this brat with their strength. It was likely that one could hardly find any people even in the entire northern regions of the Central Plains who could do this. The fellow in front of them... just where did he come from?

“Clap clap!”

An applause was suddenly transmitted from the tree branch above. A man with a scar on his face slowly stood up. His gaze was focused on Xiao Yan as he revealed an ugly smile, “Not bad, you are called Xiao Yan? May I ask if the one who has a conflict with the Wind Lightning Pavilion is you?”

Xiao Yan glanced at the scarred man before narrowing his eyes. This person was extremely strong. There was a vast difference in strength between him and those three earlier.

“Xiao Yan, be careful. He is very strong.” Nalan Yanran's hand gently beckoned to the dense fog, and a white figure flashed and appeared. After which, it pounced into her embrace, transforming into a cute white fox. She spoke in a worried voice while hugging this white fox.

“Why are they attacking you?” Xiao Yan nodded and asked.

“There is a natural maze outside of the Heaven Eye Mountain. If a

person who isn't aware of it walks in, it is likely that he will be trapped within it until the energy tide is over. This Psychic White Fox of mine is immune to the maze. One will be able to successfully walk out of the maze if one follows it. They are attacking me because they wish to snatch the white fox away." Nalan Yanran's hand gently rubbed the soft fur of the white fox as she softly explained.

Xiao Yan only came to a sudden understanding upon hearing this. It was unexpected that there was actually a maze in front. Fortunately, he did not randomly barge in. Otherwise, even with his Spiritual Perception, it was likely that he would be trapped for a long while. The thing which he really could not afford to waste now was time...

"I am not interested in your white fox. I don't need such a thing. However, these three fellows need it..." The man with a knife scar spoke indifferently. "I have some old friendship with a person from the Ground Spirit Gate. He had instructed me to bring these people to the front of the maze before we left... my method is a secret of the faction and cannot be shared with others. Therefore, I can only find a Psychic White Fox to lead them."

"We will not hand the White Fox to you. Please leave..." Xiao Yan smiled slightly to the scarred man as he spoke.

"I, Wang Chen, is not someone who can be so easily dispatched." The scarred man parted his mouth and grinned. There was a faint dense feeling within it.

"Wang Chen? The Yellow Spring Pavilion's Wang Chen?" Nalan Yanran involuntarily exclaimed when those words sounded. Her pretty face also changed a little.

"Yellow Spring Pavilion?" Xiao Yan was also startled. Immediately he broke into a smile. He had met people from three of the four pavilions along the way, and wondered when he would meet someone from the so-called Fallen Star Pavilion.

"Xiao Yan, why don't we hand the white fox to them? This Wang Chen is extremely bloodthirsty. Moreover, he is very strong. It is likely that he is

already the peak of the Dou Huang class. According to rumors, he had once fought with some Dou Zong class old demon and did not die...” Nalan Yanran bit her lower red lip with the back of her teeth. She struggled for a moment before finally spoke hesitantly. She did not wish to drag Xiao Yan into this mess.

“How will we pass through the maze without the white fox?” Xiao Yan turned his head and glanced at Nalan Yanran. He seemed to be aware of her concern as he grinned and said, “Relax, leave him to me.”

Nalan Yanran was stunned when she saw the smile of the young man. For some unknown reason, her heart felt a firm and safe feeling. All she could do was gently nod her head.

“You can forget about the white fox. If you want it, we will just have to see if you have the ability...” The smile on Xiao Yan’s face had become much dimmer. His hand slowly grabbed the Heavy Xuan Ruler beside him as he spoke.

The smile on Wang Chen’s face involuntarily became denser upon hearing Xiao Yan’s words. Anyone familiar with him knew that each time he happily smiled, was the time when the killing intent within his heart had become extremely dense.

“I have met with Tang Ying from the Ten Thousand Sword Pavilion not long ago and exchanged blows with him. He said there would be a person even more fun to play with behind. I think that he was talking about you.” Wang Chen slowly lowered his hand. A dense, black-colored energy swiftly lingered over it. He looked at Xiao Yan as his bright red tongue licked his lips. An instant later, his eyes suddenly turned dark, “In that case, allow me to see if you are as fun to play with as he described.”

Wang Chen’s body suddenly transformed into a black line that shot out after his words sounded. In the blink of an eye, he appeared in front of Xiao Yan. His fist, which was covered with black energy, carried a bloody wind as it struck towards Xiao Yan’s heart without any fancy moves.

“Be careful!”

Nalan Yanran hurriedly reminded when she saw Wang Chen suddenly

attack.

“Bang!”

A black figure flashed and stood in front of Xiao Yan like a shield in a lightning-like manner. The fist immediately smashed into it, emitting deep sound.

“Corpse Eroding Hand!”

His fist swiftly spread and transformed into a kind of permeating dark-black color. It strangely bypassed the enormous ruler and headed for Xiao Yan’s throat.

Wang Chen’s attack trajectory was somewhat strange. It swayed all around, appearing like a wooden doll that was not being controlled. It did not appear fast, but it caused one to have a strange feeling of having a difficult time dodging it.

Xiao Yan’s gaze was intently watching the dark-black hand, which was quickly being magnified in his eyes. An instant later, his eyes coagulated. A jade-green flame surged onto his fist without hesitation before he threw a punch out.

“Boom!”

The fist struck the dark-black hand in an extremely accurate manner. The hot flame caused Wang Chen’s hand to emit a dense, white smoke. In the face of a ‘Heavenly Flame,’ the corrosive properties of Wang Chen’s darkness affinity Dou Qi were completely ineffective.

The powerful collision brought about a strong air wave that spread apart with a bang. It struck the enormous trees nearby until their trunks were snapped apart. The ground had thus become a complete mess.

“Heavenly Flame?”

The exchange of the fists continued for an instant before Wang Chen’s expression changed. His feet hurriedly pulled back and the Dou Qi within his body surged. Immediately, he forced out the small wisp of jade-green flame from his palm. His expression gradually became gloomy when he

saw that flame.

Xiao Yan's finger flicked the Heavy Xuan Ruler, returning it to his Storage Ring. He glanced at Wang Chen. This person was indeed strong. However, he was not much a threat from Xiao Yan's perspective. Although darkness affinity Dou Qi was strange and unpredictable, it was miserably suppressed in the face of a 'Heavenly Flame.' If they were to really fight, Xiao Yan was confident he had a seventy percent of killing this person.

Wang Chen smiled in a dark, cold manner. He did not even look at Huang Tian and the two others as his body withdrew and entered the dense fog. A voice was slowly emitted as he did so.

"No wonder Tang Ying thinks so highly of you. You do possess some ability. Today's matter will end here. I will wait for you on the Heaven Mountain Stage and see if you have the ability to arrive there..."

Chapter 998: Maze

Xiao Yan involuntarily laughed as he stared at the spot where Wang Chen had disappeared. He was indeed worthy of being a person from the four pavilions. It was unexpected that his vicious words were so similar to the others.

Behind Xiao Yan, Nalan Yanran looked at Wang Chen who had swiftly withdrawn after only a brief exchange. Her pretty eyes contained some shock. Wang Chen's name was quite well-known. One could hardly find anyone who was a match for him in the same generation. Moreover, this fellow was bloodthirsty and addicted to fights. Additionally, he had an outstanding training talent and his strength grew extremely quickly. By relying on the strength of the Yellow Spring Pavilion, he liked to fight with some experts of the Dou Zong class. The other person, being afraid of the Yellow Spring Pavilion's strength, was afraid of really killing him. Hence, Wang Chen's name became more and more renowned as time passed. In the end, there was even rumors of him possessing the strength to fight with a Dou Zong. No one knew whether this rumor was real...

Regardless of whether it was real, the strength of this Wang Chen was something that there was no need to doubt. However, Nalan Yanran did not expect that after only a single brief exchange, this bloodthirsty abnormal fellow would be scared away by Xiao Yan.

Xiao Yan was unaware of the shock within Nalan Yanran's heart at this moment. His gaze turned to Huang Tian and the two others a short distance away as he indifferently demanded, "Why are you still here?"

Hearing this, Huang Tian and the two others hurriedly struggled to climb to their feet and fled. Wang Chen's withdrawal had caused them to completely lose any confidence they had. By being able to frightened off the renowned Wang Chen, this person's strength had already far exceeded the level they could contend against.

Xiao Yan only exhaled gently after watching Huang Tian and the two others flee in misery. He turned around and looked at Nalan Yanran. For

an instant, he didn't know just what he should say. The atmosphere immediately became one that was embarrassingly silent.

Nalan Yanran naturally did not say anything in the face of this quiet atmosphere. Her hand gently rubbed the smooth fur of the white fox while her eyes were lowered.

"Cough... you... are you also planning to head to the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool?" The silence continued for a moment before Xiao Yan finally coughed and took the initiative to speak, breaking the silence as he did so.

"Yes. Although I know that it is extremely difficult for me to obtain one of the ten spots with my strength, this trip here could be considered training..." Nalan Yanran nodded slightly and softly answered.

Xiao Yan rubbed his hand and suddenly felt a little constrained. He hesitated for a moment before asking, "You... why are you here alone?"

The hand Nalan Yanran was using to rub the white fox paused. She raised her pretty eyes for the first time, looked at Xiao Yan, and said, "Teacher is undertaking a retreat to train. Hence, I have come out alone to gain experience."

"Have the both of you been alright during these years?" Xiao Yan gaze was drifting as he inquired.

Nalan Yanran smiled when she saw this. She softly asked, "You want to ask about teacher, right?"

Xiao Yan's body unnoticeably stiffened. He gently exhaled and asked, "Is she well?"

Nalan Yanran's eyes dimmed when she heard this. She nodded and replied, "Teacher is very well."

"Is she also in the northern region of the Central Plains?" Xiao Yan asked once again. His voice had become a little heated. The scene of the sadness and struggle of her back when they were parting ways back then suddenly surfaced in his mind. Regardless of who was right or wrong back then, the Misty Cloud Sect was ultimately destroyed by Xiao Yan's hands. Being the sect leader of the Misty Cloud Sect, Yun Yun could not escape

the enmity arising from the destruction of her sect and the killing of her teacher. However, she was unable to hurt Xiao Yan. Finally, Yun Yun, who could not bare to face the situation, could only choose to leave the empire she had lived in for many years, wandering other lands...

Xiao Yan's heart felt an unknown pain the moment he thought about her. Yun Yun was not wrong from the beginning. The thing that was wrong was both parties position. Right from the start, she was the one who had been hurt the most. Moreover, she had been roaming other lands during these years. Although she was quite strong, it was likely that she, as a lady, must have suffered quite a lot.

Nalan Yanran chose to remain silent in the face of Xiao Yan's question. It was a long while later before she finally said, "Teacher instructed me before I left that I am not allowed to tell anyone where she currently is... especially you..."

Xiao Yan was stunned when he heard this. He immediately let out a bitter laugh. This woman...

"It's fine if you don't tell me. Everything's alright if she is fine..." Xiao Yan sighed. He shook his head and expelled the emotions within his heart. After which, he smiled and said to Nalan Yanran, "I am also heading to that Heaven Mountain Blood Pool. If you wish, you can follow me."

"Won't I be a burden to you?" Nalan Yanran's eyes brightened before she asked with some concern.

"I am completely unfamiliar with this Heaven Eye Mountain Range. At the very least, you do know something about it. I will be able to worry less if you are around." Xiao Yan spread his hands as he replied.

"Okay..."

Nalan Yanran's hand gently rubbed the white fox. She hesitated for a moment before gently nodding.

.....

"This place is already close to the Heaven Eye Mountain. It is likely that we will be able to reach the foot of the Heaven Eye Mountain after a short

while. There is a natural maze there. However, we possess the Psychic White Fox and need not be too worried about it.” Two figures were swiftly traveling through a forest covered by dense fog when a clear woman’s voice was softly emitted.

Xiao Yan nodded. It was indeed more convenient with someone leading the way.

“Entering the Heaven Eye Mountain does not mean that we are safe. Instead, it is even more dangerous because the entire Heaven Eye Mountain Range is being controlled by a powerful Magical Beast Tribe.” Nalan Yanran’s eyes slide over as she glanced at Xiao Yan, who was listening attentively by her side. Her attractive manner was filled with allure.

“Magical Beast Tribe? What is their strength like?” Xiao Yan was startled and he immediately frowned.

“This Magical Beast Tribe is called the Gold Swallowing Mouse Tribe. Although most of them are ordinary rank 2 to 3 Magical Beasts, their numbers are so great that it is quite frightening. Of course, the true core of the Gold Swallowing Mouse Tribe are still those members who can transform into human form. They are the true controllers of the Heaven Eye Mountain. It is rumored that the tribe leader of this tribe has also reached rank 7. His strength is comparable to an elite six star Dou Zong...” Nalan Yanran whispered.

“With such a Magical Beast Tribe occupying the Heaven Eye Mountain, how can people enjoy this Heaven Mountain Blood Pool? It is likely that such a unique thing also possesses a great attraction to Magical Beast, no?” Xiao Yan doubtfully inquired.

“Ke ke, they do wish to dominate it. However, do you think that the other human factions would agree?” Nalan Yanran covered her mouth and softly laughed. She said, “Back then, a big battle erupted in this Heaven Eye Mountain Range because of the matter of the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool. In the end, it was naturally the Gold Swallowing Mouse Tribe who lost. Why would they dare to monopolize the Heaven Mountain Blood

Pool? Although they had lost, those overly strong experts were unable to enter the Heaven Eye Mountain Range due to some special effect of the terrain. As a result of these factions being afraid that the Gold Swallowing Mouse Tribe would viciously attack their younger generations, they finally came to an agreement. The Gold Swallowing Mouse Tribe would occupy two of the ten spots in the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool. Only the other eight spots are available for everyone to use if their ability to fight for them is sufficient.”

“Eight?” Xiao Yan immediately knit his brows when he heard this. It was unexpected that the situation was even grimmer than he had expected. It was already not easy to be one of the ten. Now, two of them were already occupied. The difficulty of the competition was soaring.

“There is no choice. The Gold Swallowing Mouse Tribe has the geographical advantage. Actually, they were quite displeased in their hearts. In the past, they were able to occupy all ten spots. Now, it has shrunk by five times...” Nalan Yanran laughed, “According to the agreement, the Gold Swallowing Mouse Tribe can place a checkpoint at the Heaven Eye Mountain Range and block those who wish to ascend to the top. They can do as they please as long as they do not threaten the lives of those people. Nevertheless, they must gather eight human experts.”

“Hence, it is best not to offend a member of the Gold Swallowing Mouse Tribe once we enter the Heaven Eye Mountain. This is because they are able to decide the requirements of allowing people to ascend to the top...” Nalan Yanran’s pretty face became quite solemn near end of her explanation.

Xiao Yan bitterly smiled and nodded. It was unexpected that there were so many issues. Originally, he thought that whoever reached the top of the mountain first would be able to enjoy the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool.

Without realizing it, the surrounding fog had become much fainter while the two of them were conversing. A moment later, a row of orderly towering trees suddenly appeared in their sight. There was only a tree door which allowed only one person to pass through among the enormous

trees.

In front of this row of trees were over ten human figures. Clearly, they were all people who had thoughts about the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool.

The ten plus people turned around and glanced at Xiao Yan upon seeing that there were new people who had arrived. Immediately, their gazes solidified on the small white fox in Nalan Yanran's embrace.

"Psychic White Fox?"

Numerous joyous cries sounded. All the gazes suddenly turned to Nalan Yanran. Those who stopped here were unaware of a method to crack the maze. The sudden appearance of the Psychic White Fox immediately lit their despairing hearts.

Nalan Yanran's pretty face changed a little upon being stared at by so many heated gazes. She hugged the white fox and gently took a step back.

"Follow me. There is no need to be afraid."

Xiao Yan faintly reassured her. Immediately, Dou Qi surged out of his body. The strength of a nine star Dou Huang surged out of his body without any restraint. The powerful aura immediately suppressed those people who were about to make trouble. The strength of these people were mostly around that of a five star Dou Huang or below. There was too much of a gap when compared with a nine star Dou Huang.

"Anyone who enters a ten meter radius of us will be killed!"

Xiao Yan's eyes coldly and slowly swept around him. A voice that contained killing intent was gently emitted, causing everyone's faces to change. Their eyes began to struggle.

Xiao Yan's feet slowly walked on this ground that was filled with weathered yellow leaves. The soft 'sha sha' sound had become the only noise in this region.

Nalan Yanran followed close behind Xiao Yan. The surrounding malicious eyes caused her hands to be filled with cold perspiration. If these ten plus elite Dou Huangs were to attack, it was likely that even Xiao

Yan would have to temporarily take shelter.

The surrounding atmosphere became more tense as Xiao Yan and Nalan Yanran approached the trees. The slight sound of footsteps appeared to have stepped on everyone's hearts, causing them to feel their breathing stagnate.

Xiao Yan's footsteps gently landed. He looked at the trees, which were less than ten meters from him, and was just about to sigh in relief when his eyes slowly narrowed into a dangerous arc. At the same time, a savage, cold cry suddenly sounded.

"Everyone, let's attack together. Once we snatch that white fox over, we will be able to have a share of the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool!"

Chapter 999: A Murder Arising From A White Fox

The tense atmosphere was broken following the savage cry. The struggle within the eyes of quite a number of people was replaced by a dense greed at this moment. The Heaven Mountain Blood Pool possessed an enormous allure to them. However, if they did not have the Psychic White Fox to lead the way, it was impossible for them to break out of the maze. Hence... although they clearly knew that Xiao Yan was strong, they could only go all out and risk it because of the allure of the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool!

“Bang!”

The greed in everyone’s eyes had just appeared when deep, muffled sound suddenly appeared. Immediately, everyone was stunned to see the human figure that was the first to charge forward flew back like a kite whose string had been cut. Finally, the figure violently collided with an enormous tree. The powerful force caused the enormous tree to form a couple of fist-sized cracks. The towering tree also began to wobble.

“Grug.”

The human figure that landed on the ground immediately spat out a mouthful of fresh blood. His expression had instantaneously turned pale. His gaze contained a little shock and viciousness as he looked at the spot where Xiao Yan was located.

No one managed to clearly see just what happened in the split second event. All they could see was that an unlucky fellow, who had been the first to break the tense atmosphere, suffered a fierce attack the moment he took a step forward. From the looks of it, the one who attacked was clearly the indifferent-looking young man.

“I will not hold back the next time.”

Xiao Yan’s footsteps gently paused. His gaze stared at the tree door as his mouth slowly spat out some words that were filled with a stern killing

intent.

The throats of quite a number of people rolled upon hearing these words. The greed that had just surged from their hearts had also paled a little because of the shock. They looked at each other and none of them dared to attack first.

“If he is allowed to enter the maze, everyone will have to wait three years before one can gain such an opportunity again. If we can successfully charge in, we might still have a chance. As long as we can enter the Heaven Mountain Blood Pool, everything would be worth it. The clans and sects that everyone is in will definitely put in a great amount of effort to groom us. Our treatment would be much better than now. What great thing can one achieve by being so afraid?”

A furious cry that was filled with incitement once again sounded while the greed in everyone’s hearts was quietly weakening.

Xiao Yan’s eyes had turned unusually dark, cold at this moment. He slowly turned his head and looked at the person who had spoken. It was surprisingly still the person from earlier. The heart of the person immediately chilled when he saw Xiao Yan look over. He wiped off the blood on the corner of his mouth, took a couple of steps back, and swept his gaze around. He only let out a dark, cold smile when he saw that greed had once again surged in everyone’s eyes.

However, before the dark, cold smile, that had appeared on his face, could completely form, his body suddenly stiffened. This was because he saw a figure swiftly appearing in front of him in a ghost-like manner. Xiao Yan’s sinister face was also swiftly magnified in his eyes.

The eyes of the person, who had spoken, narrowed when he saw Xiao Yan appear. Being a Dou Huang, his reaction was quite quick. His feet stomped on the ground and a rock pillar suddenly protruded from the ground. The rock pillar was in front of his feet, and with a push, he shot backwards.

The heart of the person who spoke sighed in relief as he sensed the sound of wind beside his ear. He sternly cried out, “What is everyone

waiting for? Although this fellow is a nine star Dou Haung, he is definitely no match for all of us together...”

His voice suddenly halted, and his body suddenly stiffened. His eyes narrowed as he slowly lowered his head, only to see a hand, filled with a jade-green flame, viciously penetrating the back of his heart like a sharp blade. The high temperature of the flame prevented the hand from touching even a drop of blood.

Xiao Yan’s expression was cold after killing this person with one strike. He could sense that the greed in the eyes of those fellows around had been completely stirred...

The flame on Xiao Yan’s hand surged out and instantly incinerated the corpse of this person into ashes. His body moved and had already arrived beside Nalan Yanran in the next moment. After grabbing her, he charged to the tree door in a lightning-like manner.

“Boom! Boom!”

The dozens of meters in distance was not far. With Xiao Yan’s speed, he covered it within the blink of an eye. Just when his body was about to move, the ground around the tree door instantly began to shake. Over a dozen enormous sharp wooden pillars, agglomerated from Dou Qi, broke free from the ground and coincidentally sealed off the tree door.

Xiao Yan narrowed his eyes and looked at the wooden pillars blocking the tree door. He waved his sleeves and a jade-green flame shot out in a lightning-like manner. It easily destroyed all of it. While he was swiftly running, Xiao Yan clenched his hand and the Heavy Xuan Ruler appeared.

“Bang! Bang!”

Xiao Yan had just destroyed the wooden pillar when the ground shook. A countless number of rock spikes explosively shot out from under Xiao Yan’s feet.

“Be careful!”

Nalan Yanran hurriedly reminded him upon seeing the spikes. Her voice had just sounded when she sensed something tighten around her delicate

waist. After which, her body flew out, rushed past the rock spike region in the blink of an eye, and landed outside of the tree door.

“Chi! Chi!”

An ear-piercing rushing wind sound suddenly appeared when her body landed. Numerous energy pillars, that contained powerful wind, smashed viciously toward Xiao Yan and Nalan Yanran.

Xiao Yan was expressionless. He held the heavy ruler tightly in his hand and began to swing it around. Layer after layer of ruler images immediately appeared and formed a ruler shadow defense in front of him, which wind could not even pass through.

Bang bang!

Numerous Dou Qi attacks landed on the ruler's shadow defense, emitting wave after wave of clear explosions. The ruler shadows were also greatly reduced, and were just about to disappear when even more ruler shadows appeared. They were packed in an extremely dense manner that formed endlessly...

The dark-black ruler's shadow defense was just like a black circular barrier, covering Xiao Yan and Nalan Yanran. The fierce attacks could only cause the defensive barrier to ripple a little. The display of the Six Joint Body Flowing Ruler with Xiao Yan's current strength was something that these fellows had difficulty destroying. Moreover, this ruler technique's defense was a continuous one and was unafraid of the other party's superior numbers.

Everyone's heart involuntarily became chilled when the last Dou Qi attack was blocked by the black ruler shadow. Although this person was a nine star Dou Huang, there were nearly twenty Dou Huangs on their side, yet they were unable to break the other party's defense despite attacking together? A nine star Dou Huang might be strong, but it was likely quite difficult to reach such a stage, no?

The black-colored ruler shadows slowly disappeared. Immediately, the figure of the young man that caused everyone's heart to feel a chill once again appeared. A pair of dark-black, emotionless eyes slowly lifted.

Anyone glanced at with these eyes would feel the chilly feeling of being stared at by a poisonous snake.

“Go in first...”

Xiao Yan had his back to Nalan Yanran as he softly said.

Nalan Yanran was startled when she heard this. She obediently nodded and said, “I will wait for you at the entrance of the maze. Do not walk around randomly after you enter. Be careful.”

Xiao Yan tilted his head. Seeing this, Nalan Yanran, holding the white fox, carefully withdrew to where the tree door was. After which, she entered it in front of everyone’s fiery eyes.

The heavy ruler in Xiao Yan’s hands was slowly lifted when he saw Nalan Yanran enter. A powerful jade-green Dou Qi surged out and was immediately poured into the heavy ruler. Following the pouring in of the Dou Qi, the dark-black color of the Heavy Xuan Ruler swiftly transformed into a jade-green color.

Everyone’s expressions involuntarily changed when they sensed the powerful Dou Qi that was emitted from the heavy ruler in Xiao Yan’s hands. Some of the cautious ones actually began to quietly withdraw. Only now did they understand that this young person in front of them was actually a powerful fellow that was not inferior to people like Tang Ying and Wang Chen...

“It is too late to leave now...”

An icy smile surfaced on Xiao Yan’s face when he sensed that some people wanted to withdraw. Immediately, he focused his eyes and the heavy ruler in his hand was suddenly hacked forward!

“Flame Splitting Tsunami!”

A soft cry sounded in his heart and the light in this region suddenly soared. A jade-green ruler glow, over a hundred feet in size, emitted an ear-piercing cry, like a dragon that had broken free from the surface of water. It wildly shot out, causing the entire ground to become a mess at this moment. Numerous crack lines also began to spread like an

earthquake.

The jade-green ruler glow's speed was extremely quick. In the blink of an eye, it approached everyone. All those people could only maneuver the Dou Qi within their bodies in their shock as they swiftly formed a Dou Qi defense in front of them.

Bang bang bang bamg!

Low and deep energy explosions sounded repeatedly in this empty ground. Miserable cries randomly sounded as numerous figures landed heavily on the ground. Their bodies rubbed across it, forming numerous long scars as they did so. The enormous trees that were broken along the way turned the area within a fifty meter radius into a mess.

With Xiao Yan's current strength, by displaying the Flame Splitting Tsunami with all his strength, even an expert at the peak of the Dou Huang class would not dare to easily receive it forcefully. The strength of these people did not exceed that of a five star Dou Huang. Their fates would naturally be miserable.

The ruler glow slowly scattered and the shaking ground slowly stilled. Xiao Yan raised his head, and glanced at the many human figures, who had landed a hundred meters away. Painful and frightened moans could be faintly heard. These fellows would likely end up seriously injured even if they did not die this time around.

Xiao Yan shook his hand and the heavy ruler was placed into his Storage Ring. He was just about to turn around and enter the tree door when a strange elderly laugh suddenly appeared beside him.

"Hee hee, little fellow, you are really quite vicious to have destroyed all of these fellows. However, are you planning to just leave after turning this place into such a mess?"

Xiao Yan's footsteps paused. He turned his head, only to see a gray-robed, old man with a somewhat humble-looking appearance standing on the tree branch beside him. The man was looking at him with a smile.

"Dou Zong?"

Xiao Yan's eyes immediately narrowed after they swept over the gray-robed, old man. This person had appeared in an extremely strange manner. Even with Xiao Yan's Spiritual Perception, he was unable to sense him. Moreover, was it not the case that overly strong people could not enter this Heaven Eye Mountain Range? Why was it that this person could...

Credits

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